

## Students

Series 500

Policy Title Student Conduct in Extra-Curricular Activities Code No. 503.4-R1

Participation in student activities is viewed by the Marshalltown Community School District as a worthwhile endeavor which enhances the educational process. Participation is considered an extension of, but separate from, the regular secondary school program. Participants in extra-curricular activities occupy leadership positions, represent the school and the community and depict its character, all of which brings additional expectations and responsibilities. While the regular curricular program is a right afforded to each student, participation in the extra-curricular program is a privilege and, as such, carries certain expectations beyond those found in the normal, classroom situation. Extra-curricular involvement offers students direction in developing healthful living habits, self-discipline, leadership, teamwork, citizenship skills, and respect for structure, rules, and responsibilities. It is to those ends the Student Conduct Code is established for those choosing to take part in the extra-curricular programs.

Extra-curricular activities include all activities for which the school provides a coach or sponsor specifically including, but not limited to, interscholastic athletics, drama, forensics, cheerleading, and music. Squad training rules will be published and made available to all participants. Rules and intra-squad problems will be administered by the individual coach or sponsor. The Student Conduct Policy shall be in effect all year, including summers.

One cannot ignore the fact that many teenagers choose to involve themselves in social situations during which some participants engage in activities which are illegal unhealthy or which reflect adversely upon the student, his or her family, our school and our community.

The school district shares the concern of the lawmakers that use of alcohol and other controlled substances is detrimental to one's physical health and emotional well-being. The purpose of the Student Conduct Code is proactive; to deter behaviors that violate the law. School officials encourage the observer to call the police when students are observed in violation of Iowa law.

#### Standards of the Student Conduct Code

1. The student shall at all times be in compliance with the criminal statutes of the state and nation and the ordinance of local communities, except for minor traffic violations, and shall not engage in conduct that subjects the student to the jurisdiction of authorities because the conduct conflicts with such laws.
2. The student shall at all times abstain from the consumption, possession, control, acquisition, delivery or transportation of beer, alcoholic beverages, or any controlled substances, as defined in the Iowa Code, as amended, or on school property as well as at school-sponsored activities.

A student may want to seek help with an admitted substance abuse problem. The student or parent should approach the coach/sponsor or administrator. A rehabilitation program will be established to help the student. The High School Administration will determine if it is possible for a student to continue participation during the rehabilitation program. Self admission will not be accepted if it is made for the sole purpose of avoiding loss of competition. This voluntary

admission may be used one time during a student's secondary school career.

Violations of the policy shall be expeditiously investigated by an Investigator. The Investigator shall be selected by the Principal or his/her designee. The Investigator shall be an administrator; other than the principal. Information regarding "Student Conduct" violations will be considered if it is provided by a reliable adult or student reporter who must be willing to talk to the Investigator handling the investigation. If the student appeals the charge, the reliable adult reporter must be willing to be identified and be a part of the appeals process. The informant shall not be identified to the student during the investigative process unless the informant requests otherwise. Student informants will not be identified in any part of the investigative or appeals process.

If after investigation and separate interviews of the informant and student, the Investigator is satisfied that a violation of this policy has occurred; he/she shall impose appropriate discipline. Appropriate discipline may include suspension from competition and approved treatment if deemed necessary by the Investigator. The student or guardian shall assume financial responsibility for treatment programs. Additional penalties may be assessed if a student is found not to have been truthful in the statements to the Investigator. See Suspension Guidelines in MHS student handbook.

If a student is dissatisfied with the decision of the Investigator involving a violation of this policy, he or she may appeal to the Student Conduct Appeals Committee which shall hold a hearing. Application of the discipline imposed by the Investigator shall be delayed by the appeal process, if deemed appropriate by the principal. At the hearing, the Investigator shall explain the results of the investigation and the reasons for the discipline imposed. The student and his or

her parent(s) shall also be heard as well as other witnesses the student believes may have information involving the incident. The Appeals Committee shall affirm or overturn or modify the decision of the Investigator. The Student Conduct Appeals Committee shall be appointed by the building Principal and shall consist of individuals who were not involved in the investigative phase of the matter. The informant, investigator and witnesses of the alleged violation may not serve on the Student Conduct Appeals Committee.

If the student is dissatisfied with the decision of the Appeals Committee, the student may appeal to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall hold a hearing. Application of the discipline imposed by the Appeals Committee shall be delayed by the appeal process, if deemed appropriate by the Superintendent. At the hearing, the Investigator and representatives of the Appeals Committees shall explain their findings and decisions. The student and his/her parent(s) shall also be heard. No additional or new information may be presented to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall affirm or overturn or modify the decision. The decision of the Superintendent shall be final. If the student is not found to be in violation of the Student Conduct Rules for twelve months, the next violation will be treated as a 1st violation.

References in this policy to criminal activity or criminal statutes do not infer that in order to establish a violation of the Student Good Conduct Code it is necessary that the Investigator be furnished proof beyond a reasonable doubt of all or any of the elements of the offense.

If the student is found to be in violation of the Student Conduct Rules within twelve months of any violation, the procedure is the same and if a suspension is accepted by the student, the number of extra-curricular events to sit out is doubled and is in addition to that of the first suspension. The student must also follow school approved evaluation procedures. A third

violation within twelve months will cause a student to be ineligible for one full year.

Any student declared ineligible under a prior school district's Student Conduct Rule, and then without having completed the full period ineligibility at the prior school transfers to Marshalltown High School, will not be eligible for interscholastic competition at MHS, until the full period of ineligibility has been completed.

Adopted: June 14, 1982

Legal Reference: (Code of Iowa)

Reviewed: August 3, 2015  
February 5, 2018

Bunger v. Iowa High School Athletic Assn., 197 N.W.2d 555 (Iowa 1972).  
In re Jason Clark, 1 D.P.I. App. Dec. 167(1978).  
Iowa Code §§ 280.13, .13A (1991).  
281 I.A.C. 12.3(8).

Amended: May 23, 1983  
April 8, 1991  
July 20, 1992  
February 22, 1993  
August 9, 1993  
March 13, 1995  
March 25, 1996  
June 8, 1998  
May 22, 2000  
May 15, 2006  
January 5, 2009

Cross Reference 503.4 Good Conduct Rule