

# Red Oak Independent School District Extracurricular Code of Conduct as of the 2021-2022 school year

## I. Extracurricular Activities

The term "extracurricular activities" means, without limitation, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, drill team, academic clubs, special interest clubs, musical performances, dramatic products, student government, and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions, or community service projects on behalf of or as a representative of the district. The term includes any non-curricular event and membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized and approved by the District.

A student's participation in a particular extracurricular activity is conditioned upon the student's compliance with the requirements and standards of behavior set forth in the Red Oak ISD Student Code of Conduct outlined in the Student Handbook, and the Red Oak ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct. Additionally, individual activities may have additional guidelines specific to their group or activity in which a student may be held accountable.

## II. Jurisdiction

Student participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged. Red Oak ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this important difference: participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the district when performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities and while wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the student to the community or public in any setting as Red Oak ISD students. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total Red Oak ISD student body **at all times and places**.

Important goals of the extracurricular activities are to give students direction in developing self-discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and healthy living habits.

Because participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, Red Oak ISD is authorized to set higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* will be enforced with all students grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> participating in extracurricular activities:

- Regardless of whether school is in session;

- Regardless of whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school-related event;
- Regardless of whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs;
- Regardless of whether the extracurricular activity is in-season; and
- Regardless of where and when the conduct occurs.

It is possible that a student who violates the *Red Oak ISD Student Code of Conduct* will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his or her coach, director or sponsor for the same particular violation. However, the standards of the *Red Oak ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct* are independent of the *Red Oak ISD Student Code of Conduct*, and therefore it is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the individual extracurricular activity's code of conduct and/or the *Red Oak ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and be subject to discipline by a coach, director or sponsor without having violated the *Red Oak ISD Student Code of Conduct*.

### **III. Conduct Expectations**

**The following conduct is expected of all participants. Failure to meet these expectations can result in disciplinary action by the coach, director or sponsor:**

- Student commitment to a team or organization is expected for the entire season or activity. Students are encouraged to participate in more than one extracurricular activity; however, students may not quit one sport or organization later than before the first contest (or other such activity), in order to participate in another while the sport or club that he or she quit is still active. If a student is involved in two activities at the same time, quitting one activity will not affect the student's status in the other activity.
- All students participating in ROISD extracurricular activities that require participation on team or other formal groups, such as athletics, cheerleading, drill team, etc., made a commitment to the team or group, their teammates and their school. Each program demands the dedication of time and energy of the student participant. Part of this commitment is to be a student first and strive for academic excellence. Another part of this commitment is to place the ROISD extracurricular team or group above participation in any non-school sanctioned activity and attend all practices, games, contests, or other organized group activities scheduled by ROISD coaches or sponsors.

Without permission from a coach, director, or sponsor, if a student misses an ROISD extracurricular practice or other activity because of participation in an activity not under the direction of ROISD (non UIL extracurricular activities, such as club sports, etc.), the student may be suspended for one game, contest or other event. If a student chooses an outside activity over an ROISD activity for a second time, he/she may be released from the team or organization.

In addition, in the event a student misses an ROISD extracurricular contest, game or other such event to participate in an activity not under direction of ROISD, the student has chosen that activity over the ROISD activity and he/she may be released from the team or organization.

- Students who participate in extracurricular activities that involve competition among schools and school districts will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. This includes behavior toward visiting teams or hosting teams as well as the opponent's fans. Red Oak ISD participants will be noted for clean, tough, competitive play. Students who fail to comply with this requirement are subject to punishment up to and including removal from the team or organization for a fixed or indefinite period, or permanently.
- Students who cannot be present for a practice, workouts, meeting, or event should contact the coach, director, or sponsor, as soon as they are aware that they will be absent. Missed practices, meetings, or workouts will be made-up; however, disciplinary action may still be taken if a participant is absent more than two times in a semester or is absent any time without good cause.
- Injured or ill students who are unable to participate should still attend practices, workouts, meetings, or events as required by the coach, director, or sponsor.
- Students are required to show respect at all times to coaches, directors and sponsors.
- Students should follow the rules promulgated in the *Red Oak ISD Student Code of Conduct*. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach, director or sponsor.
- Students in grades 9-12 who wish to participate in competitive, school-sponsored extracurricular activities must participate in the mandatory drug testing program. This program shall include comprehensive testing at the beginning of the school year and random testing throughout the school year. See Board Policy FNF (Legal) and (Local) for more information regarding drug testing.

## **IV. Prohibited Conduct and Disciplinary Action**

In addition to obeying rules set forth in the *ROISD Student Code of Conduct*, the particular extracurricular activity's guidelines, if any, or rules otherwise communicated to the student by the activity's coach, sponsor or director, a student in grades 6 through 12 participating in any ROISD extracurricular activity shall comply with the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and will be disciplined as outlined below:

### **A. General Misconduct Guidelines**

**Red Oak ISD students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times and in all places from:**

- Violating the *ROISD Student Code of Conduct*
- Repeated violations of the *ROISD Student Code of Conduct*
- Violations of the social media policy
- Bullying or Harassment

Students will be subject to the consequences outlined in the *ROISD Student Code of Conduct* and the following actions based on the severity of the infraction as determined by the appropriate coach/sponsor/director in conjunction with the designated Campus Behavior Coordinator:

- Suspension from team/activity for up to 30 days and/or
- Removal from or ineligible for leadership role for one calendar year and/or
- Removal from the team or organization

\*\*\*Leadership is defined as a role or responsibility that was awarded through a formal criteria, selection or evaluation process that a student completed an application for consideration.

## **B. Removal from the Regular Education Setting**

**Red Oak ISD students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times and in all places from:**

### **1. Behaviors resulting in In-School Suspension or Suspension from School**

#### **Action taken:**

Any student removed from the regular educational setting and assigned to In-School Suspension or suspended from school, shall be disciplined as follows:

Students who are suspended or in ISS are not eligible to compete in extracurricular contests until the suspension or ISS assignment is complete.

- ISS students may practice before or after school while assigned to ISS, but they may not participate in extracurricular contests until they have served the full length of their ISS assignment.
- Suspended students are not allowed to be on campus while suspended and therefore may not participate in practices or extracurricular events during the length of their suspension.

For clarification purposes: An ISS assignment is complete at the conclusion of the school day of the final day of the assignment. A suspended student does not become eligible until the morning after the final day of the suspension.

### **2. Behaviors resulting in Discretionary DAEP Assignment**

#### **Action taken:**

Any student removed from the regular educational setting and assigned to DAEP shall be disciplined as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Offense: The student shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities while assigned to DAEP. Upon completion of the DAEP assignment, the student will not participate in any extracurricular activities for up to 10 calendar days. Removal from or ineligible for a leadership role for one calendar year.

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: The student shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities while assigned to DAEP. Upon completion of the DAEP assignment, the student will not participate in any extracurricular activities for up to 30 calendar days. Removal from or ineligible for a leadership role for one calendar year.

3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: The student shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities while assigned to DAEP. Upon completion of the DAEP assignment, the student shall also be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for up to one calendar year. Removal from or ineligible for a leadership role permanently.

### **3. Behaviors resulting in Mandatory DAEP Assignment**

#### **Action taken:**

Any student removed from the regular educational setting and assigned to DAEP for a mandatory reason shall be disciplined as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Offense: The student shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities while assigned to DAEP and from further participation in all extracurricular activities for up to 30 calendar days after returning from DAEP. Removal from or ineligible for a leadership role for one calendar year.

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: The student shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities while assigned to DAEP and from further participation in all extracurricular activities for up to one calendar year after returning from DAEP. Removal from or ineligible for a leadership role permanently.

3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: The student shall be dismissed from further participation in all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the student's enrollment in either middle school or high school.

For clarification purposes: Students placed in DAEP are ineligible to participate in or attend extracurricular activities pursuant to Texas Education Code Section 37.006(g).

### **4. Behaviors resulting in Expulsion**

#### **Action taken:**

Any student removed from the regular educational setting through an expulsion process shall be removed from all extracurricular activities for one calendar year from the completion of the expulsion.

## C. Off Campus Violations

As representatives of ROISD, students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate exemplary behavior whether at school or away and at all times. The behavior of the individual is a reflection of the team or organization and will therefore affect the individual's eligibility to participate and/or represent the team or organization. Therefore, students involved in ROISD extracurricular activities are prohibited from the following:

1. possessing or using drug paraphernalia;
2. possessing, selling, or delivering to another person look-alike drugs or items represented to be drugs or contraband of any kind;
3. possessing, selling, giving, delivering to another person, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, alcohol, a controlled substance, or any dangerous drug;
4. engaging in conduct that contains the element of an offense relating to glue, aerosol paint, or volatile mood-altering chemicals;
5. stealing/theft;
6. conduct that causes injury or harm to persons or property;
7. any misconduct requiring law enforcement notification to the school district.

### **Action taken:**

Disciplinary action as outlined below represents the minimum consequences that may be administered.

**1<sup>st</sup> Offense:** The student shall be removed from extracurricular activity for up to 30 school days. (If a student confesses to the violation before the school is notified, the penalty will be reduced by one half.) Removal from or ineligible for a leadership role for one calendar year. Any other action the coach/sponsor/director deems appropriate.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense:** The student shall be dismissed from further participation in all extracurricular activities for up to 90 school days. Removal from or ineligible for a leadership role for one calendar year.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense:** The student shall be dismissed from further participation in all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the student's enrollment in either middle school or high school.

## V. Procedures

For all activities, the school principal, the coach, director or sponsor will determine whether an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation has occurred. Upon determination of a violation by

the coach, director or sponsor, the School Administrator and the Activity Director shall be notified to confirm a violation has occurred.

Upon determination of an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation, the following individuals will be notified:

- The student and the student's parent(s); and/or
- In appropriate cases, the student may be referred to a school counselor to provide counseling, support, and guidance in dealing with issues associated with alcohol, drugs, mood-altering chemicals, and other prohibited activities.

Nothing in this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* limits the authority of a coach, director or sponsor to impose reasonable sanctions, including added training obligations or other minor sanctions for students who breach team or organization conduct expectations but do not engage in conduct prohibited by this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*.

## **VI. Insurance**

Red Oak ISD may choose to purchase or make available a limited amount of accident insurance to help cover specified expenses relating to injuries suffered by students participating in sports and other extracurricular activities. Such choice will be made by the Board of Trustees each year as a part of the budgetary process. However, the purchase of any such insurance does not operate as a waiver of the District's immunity from liability or damages for student injuries, nor does it imply any agreement by the District to assume any responsibility for such injuries or for expenses. Parents are strongly urged to make sure they have sufficient personal insurance to cover any expenses related to a student injury. Further information concerning student accident insurance may be found on the district website.

## **VII. Eligibility and Tryouts**

All students are eligible, as long as they meet UIL requirements for eligibility and any addendums included for a specific sport or activity. To remain eligible, a student must be passing all classes and have acceptable conduct as outlined in the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and the Red Oak ISD *Student Code of Conduct*.

Tryout procedures and the calendar for the various extracurricular activities are determined by the individual activity directors in partnership with ROISD guidelines. Final approval of the individual extracurricular activity tryout procedures in each area will be given by the appropriate ROISD Administrator or designee. Upon completion of the tryout procedure for the extracurricular activity, the sponsor will notify all participants of their membership status. The results of tryout procedures are final and cannot be appealed.

If due to a disability, a student requires reasonable accommodations for the tryout process, please notify the advisor of the activity as soon as possible. All students will be expected to comply with the neutral, nondiscriminatory criterion used for determining a student's eligibility

at tryouts and any accommodations that would result in a fundamental alteration of the activity will not be made.

## **VIII. Activities - Transportation**

Students will ride school-provided transportation to and from *all* events. Exceptions will not be routinely granted, but are reserved for exceptional circumstances and unforeseeable emergencies. A student will only be released to a parent/guardian, and only after completion of a travel release form\*, which will be submitted at least 24 hours in advance except in emergency situations. Exceptions will not be granted for convenience. Violations of this rule may subject students to disciplinary actions up to and including removal from the team or organizations.

\*A travel release form may be obtained from the coach, director or sponsor.

If a student is representing Red Oak ISD in one activity, he/she may be transported to a second Red Oak ISD activity by parent/guardian with previous knowledge/consent by both coaches/sponsors.

## **IX. Fundraising and Booster Clubs**

All students/athletes/participants are encouraged to raise funds for team or organization activities. Students engaged in fundraising activities are expected to promptly turn in all money (including checks) received as directed by the coach, director or sponsor. Students are responsible for safeguarding all funds in their possession, and may be required to reimburse the organization or team for any money lost or otherwise unaccounted for while in a student's possession. Students who fail to turn in all funds in a timely fashion may be subjected to disciplinary actions up to and including removal from the team or organization. Students should also be aware that retaining money that does not belong to the student may subject the student to appropriate sanctions under the *Student Code of Conduct*.

## **X. Social Media Policy**

Red Oak ISD supports the student's rights to freedom of speech, expression, and association, including the use of social networks. As a student, you represent the school district and you are expected to portray yourself, your team/organization, your school and the school district in a positive manner both on and off campus through social media.

The following guidelines will be the standard for social media/networking use by all students who participate in extracurricular activities in grades 6-12 within the Red Oak ISD. Consequences for noncompliance will vary based on severity and frequency of violation.

All extracurricular students will refrain from posting, submitting, sending, or publishing inappropriate, slanderous, derogatory, sexually suggestive, sexually explicit, or any form of



negative or obscene comments, photos, texts, etc. to any electronic, public or private entity which includes, but is not limited to: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, personal email accounts, personal web pages, personal or private chat rooms, personal texting/cell phone accounts, etc. Sending any form of inappropriate (as determined by Red Oak ISD) photos, comments, etc. will not be tolerated regardless of who the intended recipient may be. Once verification of inappropriate content was sent, consequences designated by the coach in conjunction with District administration will occur.

## **XI. Acknowledgement**

A condition to participating in any extracurricular activity or holding any office (elected or appointed) is an acknowledgement that the student has read and understands the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*. The acknowledgement states that the party understands the consequences for engaging in prohibited conduct. All students upon annual online registration acknowledge receipt of the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*.

This *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* is in accordance with ROISD Board Policy FO(LOCAL).