

Fruitvale I.S.D. Extra-Curricular Policy Handbook

The extra-curricular program at Fruitvale is an integral part of the total educational program. It is a vital part of the mental, social, and moral growth of our students. Extra-curricular programs are not designed to transcend the academic program, but to supplement it.

Extra-curricular programs can provide valuable lessons for life's practical situations. Students face experiences daily that teach them to overcome adversity, to develop leadership skills and winning attitudes, to be hard workers, and to be part of a team concept that requires self-sacrifice and service to others.

Students should be aware that being a part of the extra-curricular program is not a right but a privilege, and that privilege may be revoked by the advisor or sponsor at any time for conduct that they determine to be detrimental to the program, school district, or community.

The following expectations must be met by all students:

Attendance: Attendance in academic classes is of the utmost importance. Students involved in extracurricular activities who have more than five unexcused absences in a semester will be removed from that activity, group, or organization that they are a member of.

Behavior: Students are expected to abide by all rules and regulations of the school district and community. Failure to abide by those rules **will** result in disciplinary action and **may** result in removal from the program. Consequences will be determined by the advisor or sponsor on an individual incident basis.

Testing: Students who are required to take state mandated tests (STAAR, EOC) will not be allowed to participate in events that conflict with those test dates including the summer.

Respect: Students are expected to show respect at all times toward teachers, administrators and other school personnel. Proper manners should always be displayed, and confrontations always avoided. Sir and Ma'am should always be used by the student when speaking to any adult, or person of authority. Appropriate disciplinary action will be determined by the advisor or sponsor for incidents of disrespect. Disrespect **will not** be tolerated and continual problems in the area of respect **will** result in removal from the program no matter who you are.

Participation: Students are encouraged to participate in as many extra-curricular activities as they desire. Every possible effort will be made to accommodate conflicting schedules. Students are expected to attend all practices, meetings, and competitions that they are participating in. They are also expected to report on time, and remain for the duration of the event. Habitual absences, depending on the circumstances, may result in removal from the program.

Commitment: Students are expected to complete the entire season of every extra-curricular program that they choose to participate in.

Communication: Students are expected to contact the advisor or sponsor of their particular program prior to any and all absences, excused or unexcused, or face disciplinary action. Misunderstandings are almost always the result of a lack of communication.

Transportation: All students are expected to ride on the school provided transportation to and from all out-of-town competitions in which they will participate. Parents/Guardians must give the advisor or sponsor at least 24 hours of notice in writing if they plan to sign their child out after an event. Cell phone communication on the bus is not allowed unless the advisor or sponsor determines that it is necessary and grants permission.

Health: Tobacco, alcohol, and drugs are illegal for students and detrimental to long term health and success. If it is **proven** that a student is using any of these they will face the following disciplinary action in accordance with the Fruitvale Independent School District Student Policy:

First Offense: In order for a student to regain eligibility for extra-curricular activities:

1. Parents and students are required to meet with the campus principal.
2. The student must serve a suspension from all extra-curricular activities (tryouts included) for 60 calendar days. The suspension will be reduced to 30 days if the student provides proof of drug counseling from a certified drug counselor approved by Fruitvale ISD.
3. The student must test at every school-provided opportunity for 1 calendar year. If the student does not test positive for that year, he/she will return to random test status.

Second Offense: In order for a student to regain eligibility for extra-curricular activities:

1. Parent and student are required to meet with the campus principal.
2. The student must serve a suspension from all extra-curricular activities (tryouts included) for one calendar year.
3. The student must provide proof of drug counseling from a certified drug counselor approved by Fruitvale ISD.
4. The student must test at every school-provided opportunity for the remainder of his education career at Fruitvale ISD.

Third Offense: The student will be suspended from extra-curricular activities for the remainder of his/her educational career at Fruitvale ISD.

Cost: The District shall not be responsible for any cost incurred during drug counseling or testing other than that done according to District policy.

Appeal of Dismissal: If a student is dismissed from an extra-curricular program he/she has the right to appeal. Written notice of the student's desire to appeal the decision must be given to the advisor or sponsor. The appeal will be heard and decided on by a panel consisting of the Advisor/Sponsor, Superintendent, and High School principal to assure complete objectivity. The student, and/or their parent/guardian, will be allowed to state his/her case in the hearing.

Parents: Advisor or sponsors will be more than willing to meet with parents and discuss their child's situation under the following guidelines: **a)** schedule a meeting with the advisor or sponsor

during his/her conference hour **b)** the advisor or sponsor will discuss with the parent anything that pertains to their child and what they need to do to get better or improve their situation **c)** If at any time the meeting becomes hostile by either party, the meeting will come to an end.

Community/School Service: Students may be required to participate in community/school related service activities at various times throughout the school year.

School Issued Equipment: Students may be issued equipment. Keeping up with the equipment and taking proper care of it is the responsibility of the student and they will be held financially responsible for any lost equipment based upon the advisor or sponsor's price list for that program. Failure to properly compensate for any lost equipment may result in a suspension from participation in any program until restitution has been made.

Any discipline/punishment administered for an extra-curricular activity will not exceed a single school year, unless it falls under the drug and alcohol policy.

