

# HIGHLANDS SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: ATHLETIC AND CHEERLEADING  
RESPONSIBILITIES

ADOPTED: October 18, 2004

REVISED: November 19, 2012

<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>123.1. ATHLETIC AND CHEERLEADING RESPONSIBILITIES</p> <p>The opportunity to represent the Highlands School District and its communities as a member of an athletic team or cheerleading squad is a privilege that must not be taken lightly or abused. All participants in these activities are bound by the following district guidelines, in addition to the regulations specific to each individual sport or cheerleading squad.</p> <p>The following regulations apply to all students participating in athletic or cheerleading activities. Penalties will be imposed for violations occurring at all times during the activity's season, or at any time during school hours, on school property, at a school-sponsored activity, or while representing the district.</p> <p><u>Tobacco</u> The use or possession of any tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco, is prohibited.</p> <p><u>First Offense:</u></p> <p>One (1) week suspension from the team or activity, if during the season.</p> <p><u>Second Offense:</u></p> <p>Dismissal from the team or activity, if during the season.</p> <p>Exclusion from the team or activity for one (1) season, if violation occurs out of season.</p> <p>Referral to the Student Assistance Team for counseling.</p> <p><u>Third Offense:</u></p>
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	<p>Possible one (1) year suspension from all extracurricular activities.</p> <p>Referral to the Student Assistance Team for counseling.</p> <p><u>Controlled Substances:</u></p> <p>The use, possession, sale or purchase of controlled substances is prohibited. Controlled substances shall be those defined in Board Policy 227. Controlled substances include, but are not limited to, alcohol, prescription drugs and illegal substances. The use of prescription drugs without a doctor's written instruction will be determined as illicit use. All prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs must be registered with the school nurse. In addition, the use of any volatile substance (gasoline, paint, glue, etc.) as an inhalant is prohibited, except a medicinal inhalant prescribed by a physician specifically for that student.</p> <p>Any student who violates this prohibition will be immediately suspended from all extracurricular activities for one (1) year. However, the successful completion of a program recommended by the SAP team may be considered just cause for the possible reduction of the length of the suspension to not less than four (4) weeks.</p> <p>A second offense will result in the permanent loss of all extracurricular privileges, including attendance at any school-sponsored activities.</p> <p>Suspensions from the activities covered under this policy may be appealed to a committee consisting of the high school principal and assistant principal, the athletic director, two (2) members of the athletic council, and a school board member appointed by the board president.</p>
<p>2. <b>General</b> Guidelines</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attendance at all scheduled practices is mandatory if the student is in attendance at school the day of the scheduled practice. All practices scheduled by the coach are mandatory. Only a coach or advisor may excuse a student from practice.</li> <li>2. Attendance at all games, meets and events is mandatory. To participate in a scheduled game, meet, or event, a student must have attended a full day of school that day, unless an absence was due to a school-approved activity, college visit, or appointment.</li> </ol>

	<p>3. Students must use direct transportation to and from all away games and events. Due to liability regulations, the only exception to this rule is that a student may return home with a parent/guardian if approval has been given by a coach or advisor.</p> <p>4. Student participants are responsible for all equipment, items, and uniforms issued by the district. Students will be required to pay the district the cost of replacement of equipment, items, or uniforms lost, damaged or not returned.</p>
<p>3. Cheerleader-Specific Guidelines</p>	
<p>3.1 Definitions</p>	<p>Varsity Squad – a squad of no more than 20 individuals, selected from the combined Freshman, Sophomore, Junior and Senior classes</p> <p>Middle School Squad – a squad of no more than 10 individuals, selected from the combined 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes</p>
<p>3.2 Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>The coach of the Varsity Squad shall be recommended each year by agreement between the High School Principal and the Athletic Director, subject to board approval.</p> <p>The Varsity Coach shall be responsible to select both the Varsity Assistant and Middle School Head Coaches, also subject to board approval. The three coaches will then be considered the members of the district cheerleading staff. This staff will work together to select the best candidates for cheerleader at all levels, based solely on ability, commitment and character.</p> <p>Each individual cheerleader shall be personally responsible to comply with all written cheerleader guidelines, revised and issued annually by the Varsity Coach and approved by the HS Principal and AD. Enforcement of these policies is the primary responsibility of the Varsity Coach, with the support of the HS Principal and AD.</p>