

Good Conduct Policy Review

Sport: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Review with Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

**2010-2011 IKM-Manning Community Schools Good Conduct Policy**

**Student Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities**

The Boards of Directors of the IKM and Manning Community School Districts offer a variety of voluntary activities designed to enhance the classroom education of its students. Students who participate in extracurricular or co-curricular activities serve as ambassadors of the school throughout the calendar year, whether away from or at school. Students who wish to exercise the privilege of participating in extracurricular or co-curricular activities must conduct themselves in accordance with board policy and must refrain from activities that are illegal, immoral, unhealthy, or highly inappropriate. Participation in school activities is a privilege, conditioned upon meeting the eligibility criteria established by the board, administration, and individual activity coaches and sponsors. The Principal shall keep records of violations of the Good Conduct Rule. A student may be legal under the law but in violation of Board policy.

The following activities are covered by the board's policy and these rules: Athletics, instrumental and vocal music performances and contests, drama productions, speech contests, FFA, National Honor Society, all co-curricular clubs, all honorary and elected offices (e.g., Homecoming, Winter Dance Royalty, class officer, student government officer or representative), state contests and performances for cheerleading and drill team, or any other activity where the student represents the school outside the classroom. Students will be under the jurisdiction of these rules starting the first school day of their 7th grade year and will remain under them during the school year and summer months until they have completed their grades 7-12 school eligibility.

**Good Conduct Rule**

To retain eligibility for participation in IKM-Manning extracurricular or co-curricular activities students must conduct themselves as good citizens both in and out of school at all times. Students who represent the school in an activity are expected to serve as good role models to other students and to the members of the community.

A student will be found to be in violation of the District's Good Conduct Rule if the violation is observed by a staff member or a law enforcement official, the student admits the violation, or the violation is supported by substantial evidence as presented in a judicial or administrative proceeding. Any student who, after a hearing at which the student shall be confronted with the allegation, the basis of the allegation, and given an opportunity to tell the student's side, is found to have violated the school's Good Conduct Rule will be deemed ineligible for a period of time, as described below. Each case will be decided on its merits by the school administration but in no case will the punishment exceed the competition/performance withholding as written in the Penalties portion of this policy.

### **Behavior**

A student may lose eligibility under the Good Conduct Rule for any of the following behaviors:

- A possession, consumption, or purchase of tobacco products, regardless of the student's age;
- B possession, consumption, or purchase of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine;
- C possession, use, purchase, or attempted sale/purchase of illegal drugs, or the unauthorized possession, use, purchase, or attempted sale/purchase of otherwise lawful drugs;
- D engaging in any act that would be grounds for arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system (excluding minor offenses such as traffic or hunting/fishing, violations), regardless of whether the student was cited, arrested, convicted, or adjudicated for the act(s);
- E exceedingly inappropriate or offensive conduct such as assaulting staff or students, gross insubordination (talking back or refusing to cooperate with authorities), serious hazing or harassment of others. NOTE: This could include group conduct!
- F Students suspended from school, class, or study hall for disciplinary reasons are automatically ineligible during the time of suspension. If the suspension carries through a weekend, the student will be ineligible during that weekend.

If a student transfers in from another Iowa school or school district and the student had not yet completed a period of ineligibility for a violation of a Good Conduct Rule in the previous school, the student shall be ineligible if the administration determines that there is general knowledge in our school district of the fact of the student's misconduct or violation in the previous district.

### **Penalties**

Any student who, after a hearing before the administration, is found to have violated the Good Conduct Rule, during the school year or summer, is subject to a loss of eligibility as follows:

*First Offense*:- The student will be ineligible from competition or performance in any extracurricular or co-curricular activity for a period of four (4) weeks.

*Second Offense*:- The student will be ineligible from competition or performance in any extracurricular or co-curricular activity for a period of eight (8) weeks.

*Third or More Offense*:- The student will be ineligible from competition or performance in any extracurricular or co-curricular activity for a period of twelve (12) calendar months.

The period of ineligibility attaches immediately upon a finding of a violation and runs without interruption until completed. (Exception: see **Violations Occurring During Ineligibility**) An ineligible student may attend all practices or rehearsals at the activity director's discretion but may not "suit up" nor perform/participate.

Any student in violation of the Good Conduct Rule who is not involved in extra curricular activities as a participant or ceases to be a participant during the period of ineligibility will fall under the **Spectator Behavior Rule**. The student will not be allowed to attend school sponsored competitions or performances held in the district for the length of time stated above.

### **Special Provisions**

1. An ineligible student may not be elected to activities including but not limited to student council, class officers, royalty, etc. Students who are already class officers or student council members are subject to removal from those positions at the discretion of the activity director or student members.
2. A student may return to the "first offense" status by not being in violation, for 12 months, of paragraphs A through E of the **Behavior** section. A student may only invoke this provision once during their grades 7-12 school career.
3. Students who participate in the student activities program are subject to the policies of the Iowa High School Athletic Association, the Iowa Girls' High School Athletic Union, the Iowa High School Music Association, the FFA State Organization, and the Iowa High School Speech Association.
4. The guidelines stated in this policy are the penalties that must be enforced by all activity directors/coaches/sponsors. Each activity director/coach/sponsor has the discretion to create their own activity rules, which may be in addition to the Good Conduct Rule, but may not be

inconsistent with the Good Conduct Rule. These rules must be on file with the principal and participants must be given these rules at the onset of the activity. An activity director/coach/sponsor retains the authority to dismiss a student from their program for being disruptive, uncooperative or for being a negative influence to the success of the activity.

**Violations Occurring During Ineligibility:**

If a student is ineligible at the time of a violation of the Good Conduct Rule, the penalty for the violation will not begin until the student regains eligibility. Example: A student academically ineligible for a semester is found to have been in possession of tobacco, a Good Conduct Rule violation. When the student is again academically eligible, the penalty attaches. Example: A student violates the Good Conduct Rule and is ruled ineligible for four weeks. While ineligible, the student again violates the Rule. The second penalty attaches when the first penalty is completed.

**Academic Consequences**

There will be no academic consequences for the violation (e.g., detention, suspension, expulsion from school, or grade reduction/withholding) unless the violation of the Good Conduct Rule occurred (a) on school grounds; (b) at a school event regardless of location, or (c) the violation has a direct and immediate negative impact on the efficient operation of the school despite occurring off school grounds/time.

**Determination and Appeal Process:**

A student who has allegedly violated the Good Conduct Rule will be notified of the alleged violation of the Good Conduct Rule, the information which supports the allegations and will be given an opportunity to respond. Upon a review of all the evidence and circumstances, the Principal will make a decision regarding the alleged violation of the Good Conduct Rule. If the Principal determines that the student has violated the Good Conduct Rule the Principal will then determine a period of ineligibility.

Whenever a student is declared ineligible under the Good Conduct Rule, the following procedures shall apply:

1. A conference, scheduled by the Principal, will be held with the Principal and the student. The student has the option to have parents or guardians present during any eligibility procedures, providing it is done within 24 hours of the initial student/administrator discussion. At that time, the length of the period of ineligibility and a specific explanation of the reasons for the ineligibility will be discussed. The offense and the consequences will thereafter be put in writing and sent to the student and parent(s)/guardian(s). If the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) do not wish to appeal the ineligibility

decision, the Principal's decision will be in effect and considered final.

2. If the student or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) wish to appeal the decision of the principal, they may appeal the Principal's decision to the Superintendent. The request for the appeal must be received by the Superintendent, in writing, within three (3) business days of the date on which the student was declared ineligible by the Principal. The Superintendent shall consider the circumstances and evidence of the case and shall make a decision which will be communicated in writing to the student, parent(s)/guardian(s) and Principal. The decision of the Superintendent shall be made within seven (7) business days following the date on which the appeal was received.
3. If the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) wish to appeal the Superintendent's decision, they must do so in writing to the Board of Education within three (3) business days of the receipt of the Superintendent's decision. The appeal shall be heard by the Board at the earliest feasible opportunity, but no later than seven (7) business days following the date on which the appeal was received by the Board Secretary.
4. The Board shall schedule a special meeting for the purpose of conducting a formal hearing with all individuals involved. At the hearing, both the student and his/her parent(s) and the administration will have an opportunity to meet and present evidence and information in support of their position. The appeal will be conducted in closed session unless the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) request that it be conducted in open session. However, any formal action by the Board of Directors must be taken at an open meeting. The Board shall issue a written decision after the hearing, which includes findings of fact and conclusions. If the Board of Directors reverses the decision of the administration, the student shall be immediately eligible and shall have any record of ineligibility period and violation deleted from the student's record.
5. During the appeal procedure the student will be ineligible from participating in any extracurricular or co-curricular activities.