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Hermon School Department

Hermon Middle School Interscholastic/Extracurricular Code

Purpose

The purpose of interscholastic/extracurricular activities in the Hermon School Department is to promote the physical, mental, social, emotional and moral well being of the participants. It is hoped that these activities in our school will be a positive force in preparing our youth for an enriching and vital role in life.

The interscholastic/extracurricular programs are an important and integral part of the total educational curriculum and are open to participation by all students regardless of individual differences. Through voluntary participation, the student gives time, energy, and loyalty to the program. The student also accepts the training, rules, regulations and responsibilities which are unique to these programs. More importantly the student must recognize the fact that participation is a privilege, not a right; and that this privilege can be denied.

The concepts of self-discipline and individual responsibility are inherent for success in middle school athletics. Students who will not discipline their minds and bodies for such participation compromise the objectives of the interscholastic/extracurricular programs and the fostering of interscholastic/extracurricular/academic excellence at Hermon Middle School. In addition, a student whose academic and behavioral performance is substandard detracts from the quality of the type of individual who characterizes interscholastic/extracurricular participants.

Definition

Interscholastic/extracurricular activities include all programs outside of the academic courses of study and have been sanctioned by the Hermon School Committee.

Interscholastic/Extracurricular Philosophy

The interscholastic/extracurricular programs of Hermon Middle School are a vital part of the educational system. The primary purpose is to assist students in growing and maturing into responsible members of the school and community. As participants in activities, students are and will continue to be an important part of school life. This belief has resulted in the establishment of certain standards for students. These include standards of behavior in the areas of school attendance, academic achievement and proper conduct. As interscholastic/extracurricular activities are an integral part of our school curriculum, it is the goal of the Hermon School Department to offer a program of interscholastic/extracurricular activities that provide opportunities for boys and girls to learn skills, good sportsmanship, the importance of teamwork, and the importance of motivation and goals. We further believe that participants must recognize the value of good conditioning and physical and mental health and the role they play in competition and participation.

Eligibility

- A. To participate in interscholastic/extracurricular activities, students must be taking courses as prescribed by the Hermon School Department and noted in the Hermon Middle School Student Handbook for the specified grade level or in accordance with an approved Individualized Educational Plan.
- B. All students will be eligible to try out for interscholastic/extracurricular activities.
- C. Student eligibility will be determined at the start of each activity and will be monitored throughout the duration of the activity.
- D. Students receiving “Ones” on the Student Effort and Behavior Rubric (SEBR) will be placed on academic probation for a period of up to two weeks from that date. Two weeks after the initial review of SEBRs, students on probation must submit a SEBR monitoring slip with improved SEBR scores to the principal and athletic director to regain eligibility. This monitoring process may continue on a weekly basis until the conclusion of the activity. If a student receives “Ones” during the activity, the above procedure is instituted for him/her at that time. Students who are on probation may attend practice but will not be able to participate in any interscholastic/extra curricular contests.

Attendance

- A. A student absent from school for more than one half day (unless sanctioned by the principal) shall not be permitted to compete in practice or a scheduled contest on that day.
- B. Unless there are extenuating circumstances as determined by the principal, a student is required to be in class the day after an interscholastic/extracurricular event.

Behavioral Eligibility

A student who is assigned detention may not participate or practice in a contest or activity on the day of that detention. It is expected that the coach working with this student will assist to see the behavior of that student improves.

* PLEASE NOTE: Lack of adequate practice time due to serving detention may affect the student’s ability to play in athletic contests. The head coach will determine the status of one’s readiness to play.

Students on in-school or out-of-school suspensions will not be allowed to participate in any manner during suspension including suiting up, sitting on the team bench or being present at the activity.

Physical Examinations

Students will demonstrate that they have passed a physical by completing and returning to the main office a completed and signed copy of the Hermon School Department Sports Physical form allowing them to participate in the sport(s) or extracurricular activity(ies).

Student Accident Insurance

Students will also have the appropriate health insurance to cover them during the course of their participation. The insurance may come in the form of insurance policies provided by parents or an independent health insurance policy purchased through a local insurance agency (as provided by the school department).

Transportation To and From Athletic Practice and Contests

Students will provide permission slips regarding transportation from practices with other parents or students.

Students must travel to and from away contests/activities via transportation provided by the school. The only exceptions are:

- Injury or health concerns to a participant who would require alternative transportation.
- A written arrangement between participant's parent/guardian for the student to ride with the parent/guardian only. Student must present his/her parent/guardian in person to the head coach/advisor prior to leaving a contest/activity involving non-school transportation.
- In emergency situations direct communication between the coach and parent/guardian is acceptable.

Students will ensure that arrangements for appropriate transportation are readily available for them at the end of practice sessions, home contests/activities and upon their return from away contests/activities.