

ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES CODE

Neah-Kah-Nie School District #56 is proud of its athletic and activity programs. Our coaches, teachers, advisors and administrators expect students to apply themselves to their academics, to have good attendance records, to be neat and clean in appearance, and to behave in an appropriate manner at all times. The faculty, coaching staff, and administration consider interscholastic athletics and activities to be an important extension of the school day. In order to enhance the overall athletic program for all participants, specific rules are provided which create particular athlete-coach expectations and allow for greater consistency in the administration of the athletic program.

Physical Exams for Athletics

All students **must** have a physical exam performed by a physician licensed by the Oregon State Board of Medical Examiners, **prior** to practice and competition in athletics. The physical exam is the responsibility of the parents/students and is to be paid for by parents. Any participant that has had an injury or illness and has been under the care of a physician **must** have a "Return to Play" form signed by the physician before participation.

The following guidelines have been established by School District #56 and **MUST** be read by the student and parent/guardian before any student can participate in athletics or activities.

General Rules

- 1) Team sports are: football, basketball, and volleyball. Individual sports are: cross country, wrestling, and track.
- 2) 6th grade students **may try out** for team sports. Players will be evaluated by the coaching staff to determine their skill level and their worthiness of making the 7th or 8th grade team. 7th and 8th grade students will be guaranteed to make the teams and will have participation opportunities.
- 3) The policy shall be in effect 24 hours a day from the first day of practice through the last contest in that sport or activity.
- 4) Participants will ride to and from any event held at another school on school provided transportation. A student may ride with their own parent or guardian **ONLY** if it has been pre-arranged with the coach. (This is usually done only on the trip home.) If a student rides home with another player's parent, a change in transportation form must be completed prior to the trip. Students may not ride home with older siblings.
- 5) Athletes are eligible to compete in a contest or practice only if they attend school the entire day of the contest or practice. The only exceptions would be pre-excused absences or by administrative approval.
- 6) All students must be covered by insurance **before** being allowed to practice or compete in an athletic event.
- 7) All students must have a physical examination by a certified medical doctor on the prescribed OSAA physical form every two years.
- 8) All paperwork (permission form, physical, and insurance) must be on file in the office before the first practice.
- 7) No student will be allowed to participate in more than one sport during a sport's season unless all coaches arrange and agree to a joint participation agreement.

8) Students are expected to attend school first period on the morning after a school sponsored event. Any extra-curricular participation accompanied by a tendency toward tardiness will require a meeting with the Athletic Director, any advisor or teachers involved, and a parent to discuss further participation.

Academic Eligibility

All Middle School students are academically eligible for participation in athletics at the beginning of the academic year regardless of their status from the preceding year.

Athletic eligibility will be determined on a weekly basis throughout the season. If student academic standing is unacceptable in any classes, he/she is ineligible for the next week. He/she will be placed on probation and with the approval of teachers and coaches may practice, but may not participate in any interscholastic contests. Eligibility will be turned in on Thursday and those on probation will be notified Friday by the athletic director. Probation period will be the following Monday through Friday. Note: Teachers, coaches, and administrators reserve the right to limit participation based on unacceptable behavior and/or academic standing.

Should the same student, in the judgment of the administration and staff, fail to show reasonable academic progress during his/her initial probation period, he/she will become ineligible for the next week. During this probation period the student may not participate in practices or contests to allow them more time to raise their grades. If at the end of the second week of probation the student still has not made adequate progress a meeting will be scheduled with the parent and student to determine the student's future athletic status.

At the end of a twelve-week grading period, a student must be passing (D or better) all courses. If the student fails to pass the required courses, he/she will become ineligible for 15 days of extracurricular participation. After the 15 days have passed the student must obtain written permission from any teachers who failed them and present this information to the administration who will review and sign it to be presented to the coach. The student will then go back on a weekly basis for eligibility.

A student will not be eligible to participate, in extra-curricular activities, if they have not been in attendance for a full day unless the absence is excused through the Middle School office. If the extracurricular activity occurs on Saturday then the student must be in attendance the entire preceding Friday, unless excused through the Middle School office. Illness and tardiness to school are not considered as excused absences for athletic eligibility.

Participation certificates will be issued to all athletes who successfully complete a sports season. Letters will be awarded to those students who successfully complete two or more sports seasons.

These guidelines have been established as a minimum code for athletics/activities. **Coaches/advisors, teachers, and administrators may institute additional rules of conduct.**