

CHESHIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS Form 11  
STUDENT ATHLETIC AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES  
POLICY ON USE OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO OR DRUGS  
OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

Participation in extracurricular activities and student leadership positions is a privilege, not a student right. It is the position of the Board of Education that students attain and retain this privilege by maintaining high standards of decorum, both in school and school-related activities, and outside of the school environment.

The Board of Education directs the administration to develop standards of conduct for participation by students in extracurricular or leadership activities. Further, the Board directs that appropriate notification of this policy and its attendance regulations be provided to all students and parents annually. For grades 7-12, school disciplinary consequences and counseling as appropriate are to occur.

Participants in extracurricular activities including but not limited to all interscholastic, intramural and club sports, student organizations and other school-sponsored associations or groups, shall not possess or consume, knowingly be in the presence of a person(s) who unlawfully possesses, sells or distributes, alcoholic beverages or any controlled or prescription substance without a prescription, including steroids, or shall not possess or consume, sell or distribute tobacco, on or off school grounds, at any time during the school year and for the period of time school sponsored activities occur during summer recess.

For the first violation of this regulation, the student shall be suspended from participation in all extracurricular events or leadership positions for three weeks and/or as may be appropriate for one performance. \* For athletes, the suspension shall be three weeks or six contests, or until the end of the current season, whichever is shorter. Any student who is suspended from participation in extracurricular activities under this regulation shall be required to participate in a counseling program as a condition of reestablishing eligibility, which counseling may include participation by the student's parent/guardian. In conjunction with the suspension from extracurricular activities, both the student and his/her parent/guardian will be required to sign a statement acknowledging the consequences of subsequent violations of this regulation. The student will be permitted to participate in all activities, including but not limited to practices, meetings, and subsequent work sessions.

For the second violation, the student will be suspended from all extracurricular activities for 180 consecutive school days. The student may be required to take part in an additional counseling program to reestablish eligibility, which counseling may include participation by the student's parent/guardian.

For third and any subsequent violations, the student will be permanently banned from all extracurricular participation for the duration of his/her length of time remaining at Dodd Middle School, or Cheshire High School. The student will be encouraged to participate in an appropriate chemical dependency program.

When disciplinary action is contemplated pursuant to this policy, the assistant principal or designated administrator shall hold an informal hearing with the student, at which time the student will be given an opportunity to explain the situation.

**\*For example, if a school play were four weeks from the onset of the suspension, the student could be suspended from participation for three weeks and the first performance of the play.**

For the second and third violations the student may appeal his/her disciplinary action to a hearing panel to include the Principal and two certified staff members. The hearing panel will have the authority to modify the disciplinary action taken. The results of the hearing panels decision are final. Guidelines for the appeal process will be developed by the administration.

Violations of the policy shall be cumulative throughout grades 7-8 and 9-12.

This policy and attendant regulation in no way limits the Cheshire Public School Administration's ability to pursue disciplinary proceedings, including but not limited to suspension and/or expulsion from the Cheshire Public Schools in accordance with the Board of Education's disciplinary policy, for possession, use or distribution of alcohol, tobacco and/or controlled substances where

1. We hereby acknowledge that we have read the rules and regulations pertaining to the use of tobacco products, drugs and alcohol by students, and agree that they will be adhered to while participating in the CHS Marching Band and/or Winterguard and/or Dodd Junior Guard Programs. We understand that violation of these rules will result in suspension from the CHS Marching Band and/or Winterguard and/or Dodd Junior Guard Programs for the period specified.
2. I \_\_\_\_\_ [parent/guardian] give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ [student] to participate in the CHS Marching Band and/or Winterguard and/or Dodd Junior Guard Programs realizing that such activities involve the potential for injury which is inherent in all activities. I acknowledge that even with the best instruction and strict observance of rules, injuries are still a possibility.
3. I/we hereby give my/our permission to the Town of Cheshire, the Cheshire Board of Education, Cheshire High School, Dodd Middle School and the Cheshire High School Band Parents' Association, Inc. to use my/our child's picture or likeness for any Music Department publicity, advertising and/or promotion in any form of media including, without limitation, newspapers, magazines, posters, television or website.  
appropriate.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Student)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent or Guardian)