

## STUDENTS

### EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION

#### I. PHILOSOPHY

- A. It is the philosophy of Martin County West Schools that extra-curricular activities are an important part of the school program. They contribute to a positive school climate and enhance students' educational experience.

This philosophy must be balanced with the realization that the primary purpose of a school is instruction. A proper perspective places emphasis on instruction first and extra-curricular activities second.

Additionally, it is important to emphasize that extra-curricular activities are an extension of the school program requiring proper supervision of students and adherence to other disciplinary guidelines

#### II. RESTRICTIONS

- A. Students must be in attendance all of sixth, seventh, and eighth hour in order to participate in a co-curricular or extra-curricular activity on that day. The only exceptions are pre-excused absences for such things as a doctor's appointment, a funeral, etc. Students absent due to illness must adhere to this policy in order to be eligible for that day's activity.
- B. Conduct
1. Students may not participate in extra-curricular activities on a day in which he/she was suspended, in house, or not.
  2. Students suspended for more than one day may not participate in or attend extra-curricular activities during the suspension
  3. Students must be in attendance and on time on days following an evening activity. Failure to comply may result in a restriction of participation

#### III. STUDENT GUIDELINES

- A. Athletics
1. Academic eligibility requirements for participation in athletics as described in the Disciplinary Policy (Policy #502).

2. The School Board does not pay for tickets, provide transportation, or supervise students attending district, regional, or state tournaments in which MCW is not participating.
3. Injuries: If injuries or infections occur to a participant, a release form from a physician shall be obtained prior to further involvement in the activity. Participants have a responsibility to inform coaches about their injuries.
4. The gymnasium may be used on Sundays, holidays, or snow days with permission from the administration

B. Cheerleading

1. Cheerleaders are subject to all rules and provisions of the MSHSL. Additional rules and guidelines for participation in cheerleading are approved by the athletic director and supervised by the advisor. Students choosing to participate must abide by such guidelines.
2. Cheerleaders will be transported to MSHSL end of season tournaments in the following way:
  - a. They will ride the spectator bus if available (IIIC).
  - b. If there is no spectator bus, room will be made available for them on the team bus.
  - c. If there is no room on the team bus, transportation will be provided, as determined by the athletic director.
3. When the cheerleaders ride the team bus, they follow the directives of the head coach of that sport.

C. Transportation

1. Students participating on athletic teams or other extra-curricular events travel with school-provided transportation unless written permission is obtained from the athletic director and principal.
2. Spectator buses for students and adults will be used for thirty (30) or more paying individuals, not including cheerleaders. The cost of such trips will be determined annually by the administration. Bus drivers will be provided with a roster of riders. Students must return to school with the bus unless written permission is obtained from the principal. The bus will not make unauthorized stops other than the destination and home school.

## IV. STAFF GUIDELINES

### A. Athletics

1. Athletic practices will generally be limited to 1 ½ hours or less per team and may not exceed two hours except as outlined in paragraph three.

All students will be dismissed from practice in time to shower, change, and be out of the school buildings by 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Every effort will be made by the activities director to avoid scheduling events which would extend beyond 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

The activity bus will leave each respective building at approximately 5:30 p.m. daily during the fall sports season. Bus schedules are available in any of the MCW offices.

2. Scrimmages: Scrimmages can be very useful tool in preparing a team for the season or for re-grouping the team after a vacation or long lay-off.
  - a. Scrimmages shall be approved by the administration before final arrangements are made.
  - b. Coaches shall use good judgement in determining their needs regarding scrimmages each season, and travel for scrimmages shall be kept at a minimum. All school-sanctioned activities, such as scrimmages, shall have school transportation provided.
  - c. "B" squads may not travel for scrimmages unless it is in conjunction with an "A" squad scrimmage. There will be no "C" squad scrimmage.
3. Attitude: All coaches shall attempts to exude a positive complimentary attitude – not negative. Physical and oral abuse shall not be allowed in practices or games. Teachers, coaches, and administrators are directed to set proper standards for language.
4. Injuries: If injuries or infections occur to a participant, a release from a physician shall be obtained prior to further involvement in the activity. Participants have a responsibility to inform coaches about their injuries. All injuries must be reported to the Activities Director as soon as possible, and no later than 24 hours.
5. Supervision: The athletic director is responsible for supervising the athletic program and insuring compliance with the enclosed guidelines. This includes coordinating and supervision at all home athletic events, visits to practices, maintenance of records, and management of budget.
6. Reporting: Confrontations between the student and coach and violations of students of athletic policies and practices shall be reported immediately by the coach to both the athletic director and/or secondary principal for appropriate action and record keeping.

7. The gymnasium may be used on Sundays, holidays, or snow days with permission from the administration.
8. Games and practices on snow days will be postponed unless otherwise determined by the administration

Continuance of participants and coaches in athletic activities shall be predicated on proper adherence to district policies. Coaching assignments are made on an annual basis through the offices of the athletic director and superintendent, subject to School Board approval.