

**Sportsmanship, Ethics, and Integrity**

The Board of Education of the School District of Seward recognizes the value of extracurricular activities in the educational process, the values that students may develop when they have an opportunity to participate in organized activities outside of the traditional classroom.

Student participants and district appointed sponsors involved with school board and/or school approved extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate the same level of responsibility and behavior at practice, competitions, and extracurricular events as is expected in the classroom. School district representatives and students are responsible for maintaining sportsmanlike behavior, exhibiting ethical conduct, and demonstrating integrity. The Board of Education of the School District of Seward further encourages the development and promotion of sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity in all phases of the educational process as well as all segments of the community. This includes administrators, participants, adult supervisors, parents, fans, spirit groups, and support/booster groups.

Spectators are permitted to attend extracurricular activities only as guests of the school district. Accordingly as a condition of this permission, they must comply with the school district's rules and policies. Spectators will not be allowed to interfere with the enjoyment of the students participating, other spectators or with the performance of employees and officials supervising the extracurricular activity. Spectators, like the student participants, are expected to display mature behavior and sportsmanship. The failure of spectators to do so is not only disruptive but also embarrassing to the students, the school district and the entire community.

Any spectator, including adults, who behave in a manner that is not consistent with school district expectations and this policy, may be removed from the event by security personnel, school officials, or by the individual in charge of the event. In addition, the individual may be denied admittance to future school events or activities for a specified period of time. School officials shall send a notice of exclusion from future extracurricular activities to the spectator involved. Such notice is to be provided from the activities director and / or the respective building principal. Due process shall be provided in accordance with school district policies and shall include the opportunity for a hearing with school officials. In the event the spectator removed or denied future admittance is a student from a visiting school, an effort will be made to work with the administration of the visiting school with respect to future exclusion.

The district shall also have full authority to invoke penalties or pursue legal action as consistent with district rules, regulations, school board policies, and Nebraska and Federal laws.

To protect the rights of students to participate without fear of interference, and to permit the sponsors and officials of extracurricular activities to perform their duties without interference, the following provisions are in effect, but not limited to:

1. Abusive, verbal or physical conduct of spectators directed at participants, officials or sponsors of extracurricular activities or conduct that interferes with the administration of the extracurricular activity will not be tolerated.

2. The use of vulgar or obscene language directed at students, officials or sponsors participating in an extracurricular activity or at other spectators will not be tolerated.

The Board of Education of the School District of Seward hereby adopts the following Spectator Code of Sportsmanship Behavior, Ethics, and Integrity.

It is the responsibility of the spectator to:

1. Keep cheers positive. There should be no profanity or degrading language / gestures.
2. Avoid actions that offend visiting teams or individual players.
3. Show appreciation of good play by both teams.
4. Learn the rules of the game in order to be a better-informed spectator.
5. Treat all visiting teams in a manner in which you would expect to be treated.
6. Accept the judgment of coaches and officials.
7. Encourage other spectators to participate in the spirit of good sportsmanship.
8. Obey the instructions of school employees and officials supervising the extracurricular activity.

Adopted on: June 14, 2010

Revised on: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed on: \_\_\_\_\_