

## **USD 214 District Activities Policies**

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

Sportsmanship is defined as "a person who can take a defeat without complaint, or victory without gloating, and who treats his/her opponents with fairness, courtesy, and respect". Sportsmanship is a primary goal of USD 214. Good sportsmanship does not happen accidentally. It takes a lot of hard work and a great deal of courage and dedication to stand up and tell people when they are wrong or to take the extra time to make sure things happen right. Good sportsmanship is expected at all contests and is also expected at the times leading up to and following contests as online communication and social media continue to become such a large part of our culture. Respect for opposing competitors, teams, fans, coaches, and the officials is a must, as is the expectation for all to behave in a manner that is not detrimental to the reputation of the team or school in any way. {See Board Policy Attachments KGC, KGD, and KGDA.}

### **CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION**

Coaches/sponsors need to communicate concerns that arise during the season with the AD and/or Principal in a timely manner. Sample concerns would be: injuries, safety concerns, parental concerns, student discipline incidents, bullying/harassment incidents, and any other unusual contest/practice situations that have occurred. Written communication is preferred to help with documentation.

The coach/sponsor-student relationships may present a variety of difficulty at times. It is recommended that coaches/sponsors send information home with students and/or send information to parents regarding preferred communication methods and expectations. In order to be proactive, it is encouraged that coaches/sponsors cover schedules, team rules, and any other pertinent expectations in order to remain transparent. Proper communication can assist with the positive resolution of issues that may arise from matters pertaining to the program.

USD 214 uses the following guide for coaches/sponsors, students, and parents as it relates to communicating questions or concerns that may arise. This chain of communication helps address and resolve matters at the lowest possible level.

#### **STEP ONE: COACH/SPONSOR-STUDENT SESSION**

If a student or his/her parent has any issue or problem with the activity experience, the student is expected to address the coach/sponsor. Students are also encouraged to talk with a coach/sponsor about any issue in their personal or academic life. The district's expectations of coaches include open communication and positive relationships.

#### **STEP TWO: COACH/SPONSOR-PARENT-STUDENT SESSION**

If an issue has not been resolved in Step One, the next step in the communication process is a meeting with parents. The guideline here is to set an appointment at the coach's/sponsor's discretion. Parents are expected to follow the 24-hour rule. The 24-hour rule states that there is to be no conversation between the parents and coach until 24 hours after the incident or situation that may have caused concerns has passed. This may be an emotional time for both the parent and the coach/sponsor. An

appointment should be scheduled at a later time so parties are calm and problem-solving can occur. It is required that the parent or student define the purpose of the session when the appointment is set.

In this step, there may be rare cases when it may be best if the student does not participate in the session. If either the parent or coach/sponsor feels this is the case, this decision should be discussed when setting the appointment and purpose of the meeting.

If a parent chooses to confront a coach/sponsor following a contest or event and the 24-hour rule is not followed, the parent would be out of compliance with USD 214 policy. Failure to follow district policy may result in a short-term suspension from attending USD 214 activities. Additional failures may result in long-term suspension from attending district activities.

### STEP THREE: ADMINISTRATOR-COACH/SPONSOR-PARENT-STUDENT SESSION

If an issue is not resolved in Step Two, the next step may be initiated by any party. Using the same process as above, an appointment is set and all parties define the purpose of the meeting.

## **Bullying by Parents**

**KGC**

(See BBC, GAAE, JDDC, KGD)

The board of education, in its commitment to provide a positive and productive learning and working environment for its students and staff in accordance with state law, prohibits bullying in any form by any student, staff member, or parent towards a student or a staff member on or while using school property, in a school vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event. For the purposes of this policy, the term "bullying" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in Kansas law.

The administration shall propose, and the board shall review and approve a plan to address bullying as prohibited herein.

Parents participating in prohibited bullying conduct aimed at district students and/or staff members may jeopardize their access to district facilities; district property; school sponsored activities, programs, and events; and/or district students and/or staff members through the district's communication systems. As appropriate, reports to local law enforcement will be filed to report criminal bullying behaviors.

This policy and the district bullying plan may be posted on the district's website, and copies of such documents shall be made available to parents of current students upon request.

Approved:

KASB Recommendation- 6/13; 12/15; 6/22

**KGD Disruptive Acts at School or School Activities**  
(See EBC, GAAE, JCDBB, JDDC, and KGC)

**KGD**

Disruptive acts at school or school sponsored activities will not be tolerated. Persons threatening the safety of students, school personnel, or other persons; to damage school property; or to interfere with school or school activities or the educational process will be asked to leave the premises.

The school administration and staff are responsible for handling any disturbance caused by adults or students. The final decision for determining if assistance is needed is the responsibility of the superintendent or school principal. In the absence of these individuals, the determination shall be made by the assistant principal or person designated to be in charge of the building or activity. The superintendent shall be notified of any serious problem at the school.

**Possession of a Firearm**

Unless otherwise required by law or authorized by board policy, no person other than a law enforcement officer shall possess a firearm on any district owned or operated property; within any district owned or operated building or facility; in a school vehicle; in an employee's personal vehicle being used to transport students or school staff in the performance of job duties for the district; or at any school sponsored activity, program, or event. This prohibition includes possession of concealed and/or openly carried weapons; however such prohibition shall not apply to the secured storage of a handgun in a district employee's own locked vehicle on school property so long as such weapon is maintained out of plain sight.

**KGDA Public Conduct on School Property**

**KGDA**

The superintendent or the superintendent's designee may deny access to the school buildings, facilities, and/or grounds of the district to persons who have no lawful business to pursue at the school, persons who are acting in a manner disruptive or disturbing to the normal educational functions of the school, or persons who are on school property in violation of Board and/or building policy. Administrative personnel may demand identification and evidence of qualification for access of anyone desiring to use or come upon the premises of the particular school or facility.

Persons, including parents or persons acting as parents, who have legitimate reasons for being on school property must nevertheless abide by policies adopted by the board and building policies specifically applicable to each school. Such building policies shall be published annually in the school handbook and shall be posted at the school in a conspicuous place visible to all who enter the premises. {Visitors must secure and wear a visitor's pass to enter school buildings during the school day.}

Anyone who refuses or fails to leave district buildings, facilities, and/or grounds after being requested to do so by an authorized district employee shall be considered to be trespassing in violation of Kansas law. In such case, the police will be contacted, and arrest and criminal charges may result.

The administration will determine if the individual who has been asked to leave a district building, facility, or grounds is allowed to return in the future. If the individual is not to return in the future, the appropriate "Trespass Notification" is to be sent to the individual.

Approved: KASB Recommendation - 6/14