

***Extracurricular Activity
Guidelines
Washington School***

Oglesby Public Schools

2011-2012

Philosophy

Several extracurricular activities are available to junior high students at Washington School. As such, each activity represents an opportunity for young people to pursue outside interests. The primary mission of this school district is to provide each student with a total educational experience that will prepare him/her for the future responsibilities of high school. Extracurricular activities are one of the vehicles offered to students in an effort to accomplish this vision. Academic performance is Oglesby's primary focus.

Participants in Extracurricular Activities

Any student who wishes to participate in extracurricular activities (basketball, volleyball, cheerleading, track, scholastic bowl, and any other activities which may be added in the future) during their junior high experience may do so if they meet the academic and behavioral expectations as outlined in the student handbook. These guidelines represent the Oglesby School District Policy for student participation in all extracurricular activities.

The guidelines for participation will be explained to parents in an orientation meeting prior to the beginning of each activity. Academic and behavioral expectations are defined in the school handbook. These guidelines represent board adopted policy and will be enforced consistently. Academic ineligibility will be determined by student performance in curricular areas. Behavioral eligibility will be determined according to the board adopted school discipline policy. If a student is declared ineligible one time, he/she will be ineligible for a one week time period. Should any student be ineligible three times during one season/activity, he/she will not be able to participate in that program for the remainder of that school term. Ineligible students are not to attend games or practices during their suspension from the activity.

Levels of Participation

Student participation on any of the extracurricular activities in which Oglesby Washington School fields a team will follow the guidelines which have been established by the Vermillion Conference for the said activity. In addition, student participation on any team/activity will be in accordance with regulations required by the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA).

The athletic programs which will be offered during the 2011-2012 school term will be girls' basketball, boys' basketball, girl's volleyball and track.

Girls' basketball is offered for grades 5-8; 7th & 8th grade teams will participate as allowed by IESA guidelines in the Vermillion Conference. All Conference rules coupled with IESA guidelines will be followed. Both 7th & 8th grade teams will participate in the season ending IESA Basketball Tournament.

Boys' basketball is offered for grades 5-8: 7th & 8th grade teams will participate as allowed by IESA guidelines in the Vermillion Conference. All Conference rules coupled with IESA guidelines will be followed. Both 7th & 8th grade teams will participate in the season ending IESA Basketball Tournament.

Girl's Volleyball teams will be fielded for in sixth, seventh and eighth grade levels. Levels of participation will be determined in accordance with IESA and Vermillion Conference guidelines. Only girls will be permitted to participate in volleyball competitions. Volleyball teams will participate in the IESA series at the end of the season for the first time in 2008.

Track is offered in our district athletic program for both 7th & 8th grade boys and girls. Students will compete in local meets as well as the IESA series at the end of the season.

Any athletic/scholastic programs that might be added in the future will follow participation guidelines in accordance with the IESA and the Vermillion Conference.

Tri-Annual Interest Survey

The school will conduct a student survey every third year during the second semester to assess the level of interest in the extracurricular programming. This was done in the winter of 2009. The results of this survey were considered heavily in expanding some of our existing programs. Furthermore, these results will be referenced as District #125 plans future growth and expansion until the next survey is conducted in the winter of 2012.

Communication

Communication is extremely important to the successful management of each extracurricular program. Students who are not able to fulfill their commitment to practices or competitions must follow the following procedures:

1. Student illness which has been reported to the school office excuses a student from practice or a game. If a student is not in school the day of a scheduled contest, he/she cannot participate in the activity. If a student is absent from school he/she is not to attend any school function on the given day.
2. Students are to communicate directly to their team coach any specific reason for absence from practices or games. Messages are not to be sent via other students. If the coach is unavailable, the player should inform the principal in order to get the message to the appropriate coach.
3. Repetitive absences from practices due to other outside commitments or responsibilities will be dealt with on an individual basis. (i.e. parental weekend visitation) Arrangements will be made between home and school in these situations.
3. Students who have paper routes are expected to make arrangements to meet this responsibility. Requests for adjustments in the schedule need to be communicated to the coach.
5. Holiday practices and games are aspects of the program which are requirements. If parents plan a vacation during this time, it should be communicated to the coaches prior to break so arrangements can be made by the coaches.

Practices

Practice for the basketball, volleyball, and track teams will be held at both Lincoln and Washington Schools. Some practices may take place on Saturdays. A schedule will be developed and parents and students will be kept informed. There will be no practices on Sundays (There may be tournaments that take place on Sundays). In an effort to have quality practice time for each team, the coaching staff will develop a schedule for practices that will be shared with the building principal to insure there are no conflicts.

The practice schedule will be rotated. Basketball and volleyball practices are closed to parents and visitors. Only players and coaches may attend practices. Practices for other activities such as scholastic bowl and cheerleading are also closed to parents and visitors.

Games

Typically the game format will be set up to have two contests in one evening, a seventh grade level contest followed by an eighth grade level contest. (exception: volleyball may hold three contests). Fifth and sixth grade basketball games will generally be scheduled on different dates and may be scheduled at times immediately after school.

Transportation

Parents are responsible for providing appropriate transportation after practices, games and after the bus returns from away games. Typically students will return around 9:00 from most away contests. All team members must ride assigned transportation to and from games which are scheduled at other schools if provided. Parents may be allowed to transport their student after an event. **There must be a current waiver and copy of the driver's license on file in the office. The request must be presented to the coach or sponsor in writing. Please be advised it must be a parent, and you are only allowed to transport your own child.**

Eligibility Checks

Students must be academically eligible to participate in any extracurricular activity. Students will have their grades checked every week during their season. If a student is ineligible 3 times during a given season he/she will be dismissed from the team. Conduct is also reviewed. Complete guidelines for eligibility are outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook.

Participation Fees

Oglesby Schools requires that participants in sports and music programs pay a fee. The fee structure includes an assessment of \$30.00 per activity with a ceiling of \$60.00 for an individual student. The maximum assessment for a family is \$120.00 regardless of how many children and/or activities they participate in during the school term. All students are required to pay these fees unless they have been approved for a fee waiver by the school office. Any questions on the fee structure or waivers should be directed to the office at Washington School.

Format for Filing Complaints

Parents who have concerns or complaints regarding the extracurricular programs offered by Oglesby Public Schools are to follow the steps listed below in addressing their concerns:

1. Set up a time with the coach/head coach to discuss concerns. This meeting should take place at a mutually convenient time. The coaches will not be available after games for such discussions and should be contacted to set up a time to meet with the concerned parent.
2. If a resolution is not met after meeting with the coaches then the parent contacts the principal to set up a time in which the coach, parent, and principal can meet to discuss concerns.
3. If a resolution is not met through this meeting, the parent then can request a meeting with the superintendent and other personnel regarding concerns.
4. If after all these options have been exhausted and the parents are still not satisfied with the resolution, they may then request a meeting with the school board in order to share their concerns.

These steps are to be followed in the order presented in dealing with concerns and/or complaints on extracurricular programs.

Parent Orientation

An orientation meeting will be scheduled prior to the beginning of each activity for all parents/guardians in order to become fully informed of the guidelines and expectations for membership in each extracurricular program. All parents and participants are required to attend this orientation meeting. The coaches and administration will be on hand to answer questions. This meeting will be held prior to the beginning of each activity.

General Rules for Participants

1. Any student caught using alcohol, cigarettes, or controlled substances of any kind during the season will not be permitted to participate as a member of the team for the remainder of the term.
2. Anyone caught with other people, who are drinking alcohol, using drugs, or any controlled substance will be suspended from games for a period of one week, but they must attend all scheduled practices and be present at the game. Students are expected to attempt to remove themselves from these situations.
(Guilt by association)
3. Possession of a controlled substance of any kind will result in dismissal from the activity.
(all tobacco products, alcohol, other drugs, etc.)
4. Any student caught stealing will be dismissed from the team.
5. As representatives of Washington School, all students involved in the program will always be courteous and will show respect toward all other players, coaches and fans.
6. All injuries, no matter how minor are to be reported to the coach immediately.
7. All students are expected to put forth their best effort at all times. If you don't play hard in practice, you don't want to play in the game!!

IESA Publicity Policy

"Each member school acknowledges that athletic contests and interscholastic competition take place in the public. As such, there is no expectation of privacy in the images of student athletes, coaches or other participants at such events. The IESA and/or its agents or designees may take, distribute and use photographs of student athletes, coaches, officials and other participants at such events and use the same for publicity, marketing and other appropriate purposes, including event programs. The member school will take appropriate actions to notify its student athletes, coaches and participants of this provision."

IESA By-Law Reminder:

By-Law 3.042 stipulates that students cannot practice or participate in any non-school competition in the same sport either as an individual or a team member during the IESA season for that sport.

"During the IESA season for a sport, as defined for each sport in Division 4 of these By-Laws, students shall not practice or participate either as an individual or a team member in any non-school competition in the same sport. Examples of non-school competition include (but are not limited to) the following: organized leagues, park and recreation leagues, club teams, and youth sport leagues."