# Hanson School District #30-1 Activities Handbook

# Rules and Regulations 2023- 2024

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# Introduction

Student participation in extracurricular activities has been linked to improved attendance, higher academic achievement, and greater student self-confidence and self-esteem. Hanson School District provides students with the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive activities program that includes athletics, fine arts, and select clubs or organizations associated with academic areas.

Although the school district believes strongly in the value of student activities, participation in the activities program is a privilege, not a right. Students must obey the rules set out in this handbook and any additional rules created by their coach or activity sponsor. This handbook is advisory and does not create a "contract" with parents, students, or staff. The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well-being of all students. The administration is responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. If a situation or circumstance arises that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

# Please read this handbook carefully. Students and their parents are responsible for complying with all of the rules and procedures detailed in this booklet.

# Parents must sign the acknowledgement and permission to participate form at the end of this handbook before their student will be permitted to participate in the activity programs of the district.

The provisions in this handbook are subject to change at the sole discretion of the Board of Education. From time to time, you may receive updated information concerning changes in the handbook. These updates should be kept within the handbook so that it is up to date. If you have any questions regarding this handbook, please contact the Superintendent for assistance.

# NONDISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

The school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Name: Josh Oltmanns or James Bridge Title: Elementary Principal - Superintendent Address: PO BOX 490, Alexandria, SD 57311 Telephone: 605-239-4387 E-mail: josh.oltmanns@k12.sd.us james.bridge@k12.sd.us

For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, visit http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area or call 1-800-421-3481.

For additional prohibited discrimination and related information, please review school district Policy 3053 – Nondiscrimination

# SECTION ONE: GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

# Academic Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the school's activity programs, each student must meet South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) and District requirements concerning scholastic eligibility (see Section Three of this Handbook). Participants must attend practices and participate in all conditioning during any period of ineligibility.

The school district will notify a participant and his or her parents whenever the participant is declared academically ineligible.

Students may not participate in any activity, performance or practice while serving a short-term suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion from school.

# Attendance at Practices and Contests

Participants in the activities program are expected to attend and be on time at all practices and meetings scheduled by the coach or sponsor. Participants may be excused for absences resulting from a participant's illness, a death in the family, a doctor's appointment, a court appearance, or other absences that are arranged in advance. The coach, sponsor, or director of an activity may require a participant who has an excused absence to complete an alternate assignment for missing a practice, meeting, event, performance, or contest. A participant who is unable to attend a scheduled practice, meeting, or game must contact the coach or sponsor in advance. Students who are absent from school due to illness are not required to provide the coach or sponsor with additional notification of the student's absence from practice.

Students who are absent from school for any part of the day will not be permitted to practice or participate in an athletic contest or activity performance unless the student has the building principal's prior permission to participate despite the absence.

If a participant misses a scheduled contest or performance, the coach or sponsor may impose discipline up to and including suspension of the participant from the activity for the remainder of the season or length of the activity.

# <u>Closings</u>

Unless the administration determines that it is permissible for the activity to continue as scheduled, all activities will be canceled or postponed in the event that school has been called off for inclement weather or any other reason as determined by the administration. Unless the administration determines that it is permissible for the activity to continue as scheduled.

#### <u>Colors</u>

The Hanson School colors are Blue and White.

#### Complaint Procedure

To reduce conflicts in the school's activities program, students and/or their parents should use the district's formal complaint procedure to manage conflicts about the program. The complaint procedure is printed in the school's student handbook and may be found on the district's web site.

#### **Dances**

School dances are part of the district's extracurricular activity program. Students who wish to participate in school dances must comply with the activity code. Students may be prohibited from participating in school dances as a consequence for violating school rules or these activity rules.

#### Junior High/Middle School Dances

Junior high/middle school (6-8) dances are restricted to students currently enrolled in the junior high school and will be sponsored by junior high teachers and parents. Any organization wishing to sponsor a junior high dance must obtain permission from the principal regarding date and times. Each dance must be sponsored by at least two faculty members and one additional adult couple. Once admitted to the dance, students must remain until the close of the dance. Students who leave the dance will not be readmitted. Students who are academically ineligible will not be allowed to attend school dances.

# High School Dances

All high school dances are restricted to Hanson High School students and their guests. Any organization wishing to sponsor a dance must obtain permission from the principal regarding date and times. Each dance must be sponsored by at least two faculty members. Once admitted to the dance, students must remain until the close of the dance. Students who leave the dance will not be readmitted.

#### Homecoming and Prom

The Homecoming dance is open to students and guests of Hanson High School.

The Junior/Senior Prom is open to students and guests of the Hanson High School junior and senior classes. Guests must follow all rules that the students must follow. Each student is responsible for his/her guest's conduct. Appropriate attire is required for these dances. No blue jeans, shorts, or T-shirts will be allowed at the banquet or dance for Prom. Black dress jeans will be acceptable.

# **Electronic Communication**

The school board supports the use of technology by coaches, extracurricular sponsors, and other staff members to communicate with students for legitimate educational, extracurricular, and other school-related purposes. However, electronic communication between students and teachers, sponsors, and coaches shall be appropriate at all times and shall not violate any law, district policies, or the Regulations and Standards for Professional Ethics. Please see the Social Media Policy For School District Employees for further explanation.

# <u>Equipment</u>

Each participant in the athletic portion of the activities program is offered a locker to store his/her personal belongings and school equipment that has been checked out.

School-owned clothing or equipment that is checked out to individual students remains the property of the school. The clothing or equipment is not to be used or worn by the student except for the intended use. Each piece of equipment or clothing is to be returned to the instructor or coach when the season or the use for such clothing or equipment is over. Each participant is responsible for all equipment checked out to him/her. Students will be assessed the replacement cost for school equipment that has been check out to him/her and is lost or stolen.

# <u>Fundraising</u>

All school-sponsored fundraising activities must be approved by a member of the school district administration. Fundraising for any activity must comply with the district's policies, including applicable provisions specifically pertaining to Booster Clubs and PTOs for non-school-sponsored fundraising. Use of the school mascot shall not be permitted unless approved by the superintendent.

# Individual Training Rules and Rules of Conduct

Head coaches or sponsors may develop additional training rules or rules of conduct for their activity. Students are responsible for knowing these rules and complying with them.

# **Injuries**

Participants who suffer any type of injury while involved in extracurricular activities must notify the coach or sponsor immediately. The coach or sponsor will then evaluate the injury and, if necessary, notify the participant's parents or seek immediate medical treatment.

If at any time during participation a doctor removes an athlete from participation because of an illness or injury, the athlete must have a written release from a doctor before participating again. The written release must be given to the coach or sponsor of the activity. The release requirement will be satisfied if the initial doctor's order specifies the duration of the student's restriction from participation and/or competition.

#### <u>Insurance</u>

The school district does not provide medical or other insurance coverage for students who participate in athletic contests or other activities. It is the parents' responsibility to provide adequate insurance to cover any medical expenses that may be incurred while the student is participating in athletics or other activities.

The school district makes an accident insurance plan available for purchase by participants and their families through an authorized insurance agent. Information about policies which families may purchase will be available prior to each sports season and at fall registration.

# Lettering Requirements

Letters are earned on the Varsity Level Only.

- Basketball Participate in at least 12 quarters in one season
- Football Participate in at least 6 quarters in one season
- Volleyball Participate in at least 1/3 of all sanctioned games
- Track An athlete must score at least 1 point in any varsity track meet
- Cheerleading Participate in 3/4 of each sport you cheer for
- Cross Country Must finish in the top 20 of two CC meets on the Varsity Level
- Softball Play 1/3 of all varsity innings in a season.
- Wrestling Score 18 points on the Varsity or qualify for State.
- Gymnastics Athletes that compete two times contributing to the varsity score.
- Golf Must place in a Varsity Meet

# <u>Mascot</u>

The official emblem for boys' and girls' athletic teams is the Beaver. The mascot cannot be used for non-school-sponsored purposes unless approved by the superintendent.

# **Practices**

The individual head coach or sponsor, in cooperation with the high school principal, will schedule all starting times of practices. All participants are expected to be ready at the time set by the coach or sponsor.

To be eligible to practice, a participant must satisfy the following requirements:

- 1. Submit to the coach or sponsor a signed physical form and Activities Code that verifies that a physical examination has been completed and that the student and parent(s) understand the school's position regarding the use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, and other related drugs.
- 2. Furnish the school with proof of insurance.

#### Student Manager, Helpers, or Activity Aids

Students wishing to serve as student volunteers for extracurricular activities must gain the permission of the activity coach or sponsor. Student volunteers must comply with all of the rules and procedures contained in this handbook.

#### Sunday and Wednesday Night Activities

In order to provide students sufficient time away from school for family-related activities, the school will endeavor not to schedule activities on Wednesday evenings or on Sundays. Practices will be organized so that all participants are showered, dressed, and/or leave the facilities by 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights. An exception to this guideline would be when a team, group of students, or an individual may be required to participate in an activity sponsored by the conference, district, or state on a Wednesday night.

Practices scheduled for a Sunday must have the prior approval of the activities director or building principal.

#### <u>Transportation</u>

All participants are expected to ride to and from away activities by means of approved school transportation.

A participant may ride home with his or her parent/guardian only if the parent/guardian personally contacts the sponsor at the activity. A

participant may ride home with an adult if the participant's parent/guardian has personally contacted the sponsor at the activity. Parents are discouraged from requesting to take their children home after an away contest or performance. Travel to and from an event provides time for the students to further develop a strong team concept.

#### <u>Weight Room</u>

The weight room has been developed to help each athlete, student, or adult in the community maintain a level of physical fitness. No one may use the weight room or equipment without proper supervision. The school will develop a schedule for use of the weight room by athletes during the school year and during the summer months.

The weight room is a high demand area within the school facilities. The following guidelines will help determine the priorities in reference to use if more than one group desires to use the facility at the same time:

- 1. Physical education instruction
- 2. By the team sports, which are in season
- 3. Conditioning programs for athletes not currently out for a sport
- 4. Summer conditioning programs
- 5. Adult education

# **SECTION TWO:**

# **AVAILABLE ACTIVITIES**

# Athletic Teams

Basketball (boys and girls) Cross County (boys and girls) Football Golf Track (boys and girls) Softball Volleyball Wrestling Gymnastics

#### <u>Band</u>

The school district sponsors marching band, pep band, and jazz band in addition to concert band. Participants must be enrolled in band class in order to be eligible to participate in these groups.

#### Cheer Squad

Participants are selected by the sponsor(s) or judges appointed by the sponsor. Members of the cheer squad will attend all home and selected away athletic contests.

# Oral Interp

Students may compete in various categories to develop speaking skills.

# <u>Skills USA</u>

Skills USA is an integral part of the vocational departments and membership is limited to those students with at least one semester of work in CTE courses. One of the primary objectives of Skills USA is developing leadership and responsibility.

#### Letter Club

Any student who has lettered in any sport is eligible for membership. The purpose of the Club is to stimulate and encourage sportsmanship and to assist in bringing about a closer bond between students in all sports.

#### National Honor Society

The National Honor Society is a national organization that recognizes student character, scholarship, leadership, and service to the school.

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE Section 1. The name of this organization shall be Hanson Chapter of the National Honor Society. Section 2. The purpose of this organization shall be to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools. Section 3. NHS is a program of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, 1904 Association Drive, Reston, VA 20191-1537, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit association.

ARTICLE 2: THE SUPERINTENDENT Section 1. The Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, reserves the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter. Section 2. The Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, shall appoint a chapter adviser(s), who may serve consecutive terms. Section 3. The Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, shall receive appeals in cases of non-selection of candidates, and the disciplining or dismissal of members.

ARTICLE 3: THE CHAPTER ADVISER(S) Section 1. The chapter adviser(s) shall be responsible for the direct, day-to-day supervision of the chapter and

act as liaison between faculty, administration, students, and community. Section 2. The chapter adviser(s) shall maintain files on membership, chapter history, activities, and financial transactions which shall be run through the District's Trust and Agency Fund. Section 3. The chapter adviser(s) shall regularly review each member for compliance with Society standards and obligations. Section 4. The chapter adviser(s) shall help the chapter officers understand and carry out their duties. Section 5. The chapter adviser(s) shall be ex-officio, non-voting, Faculty Council member(s).

ARTICLE 4: FACULTY SELECTION COMMITTEE Section 1. The Faculty Council shall consist of five voting faculty members appointed annually by the chapter adviser(s). No Principal or assistant Principal may be included on the Faculty Council. Section 2. The term of the Faculty Council shall be one year. Members may be appointed to consecutive terms. Section 3. The Faculty Council shall meet at least once a year to review the procedures of the chapter, select members, and to consider non-selection, dismissal, other disciplinary actions, and warning cases.

MEMBERSHIP ARTICLE 5: MEMBERSHIP Section 1. Membership is an honor bestowed upon a student. Selection for membership is by the Faculty Council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to HANSON SCHOOL DISTRICT #30-1 demonstrate these qualities.

Section 2. Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony. Section 3. An NHS member who transfers to another school and brings a letter from the chapter adviser shall be accepted automatically as a member in the new school's chapter. The member must meet the new chapter's standards within one semester in order to retain membership. Section 4. Members who resign or are dismissed are never again eligible for membership.

SELECTION OF MEMBERS ARTICLE 6: SELECTION OF MEMBERS A National Honor Society faculty council of five high school faculty members will be appointed by the National Honor Society Adviser(s). The following criteria will be utilized in selection of new members to the National Honor Society: 1. All students who have obtained a 3.50 cumulative GPA at the end of their second semester of their sophomore and junior are automatically eligible to apply in the fall as juniors and seniors. 2. Students must then submit an official National Honor Society Application to be considered for acceptance to NHS. Once complete, each faculty council member will receive the information to be evaluated and scored. 3. Each member of the Faculty Council will be asked to evaluate Service and Leadership. a. All faculty

members will participate in the evaluation of Character and rate each eligible student on a scale as follows: Student's Individual Evaluation: Evaluation Points: Student is outstanding and highly worthy of membership 4 Student is superior and worthy of membership 3 Student is average but worthy of consideration 2 Student is below average and should receive very little consideration 1 Student is below average and should receive no consideration 0 Guidelines Service: The student who serves is willing to uphold scholarship and maintain a loyal school attitude, participates in some outside activity such as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, church groups, volunteer services for the aged, poor, or disadvantaged, volunteers dependable and well-organized assistance, is gladly available, and is willing to sacrifice to offer assistance, works well with others and is willing to take on difficult responsibilities, cheerfully and enthusiastically renders any requested service to the school, is willing to represent the class or school in competition, does committee and staff work uncomplainingly, and shows courtesy by assisting visitors, teachers, and students. Leadership: The student who exercised leadership is resourceful in proposing new problems, applying principles, and making suggestions, promotes school activities, exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals, contributes ideas that improve the civic life of the school, is able to delegate responsibilities, exemplifies positive attitudes, inspires positive behavior in others, demonstrates academic initiative, successfully hold school offices or positions of responsibility, conducts business efficiently and effectively, and without prodding, demonstrates reliability and expendability, demonstrates leadership in the classroom, at work, and in school or community activities, and is thoroughly dependable in any responsibility accepted. Character: National Honor Society supports and recommends the use of a multifaceted definition of character known as the Six Pillars of Character. A person of character demonstrates the following six qualities: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. The student of character: \*Takes criticism willingly and accepts recommendations graciously. \*Consistently exemplifies desirable gualities of behavior (e.g. cheerfulness, friendliness, poise, stability) \*Demonstrates the highest standards of honesty and reliability. \*Regularly shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others \*Observes instructions and rules, is punctual, and faithful both inside and outside the classroom. \*Manifests truthfulness in acknowledging obedience to rules, avoiding cheating in written work, and showing an unwillingness to profit by the mistakes of others. \*Actively helps rid the school of bad influences or environment. 4. Determination of Newly Elected Membership of NHS: Following is the procedure that will be utilized in determining whether or not a student has been selected to membership in the National Honor Society: a. Faculty Council will evaluate and score Service & Leadership utilizing the above definition guidelines. b. All faculty members will evaluate and score Character utilizing the above definition guidelines. c. Service, Leadership & Character will be averaged to determine a final score. d. Selection to NHS will follow this scoring procedure: i. All students scoring an average of 3.0-4.0 automatically qualify for membership. ii. All students scoring a 1.9 or below do not qualify for membership at this time. iii. All students scoring a 2.0-2.9 are worthy of consideration. This means that all students that fall within this range are considered by the Faculty Council with a simple, confidential Yes or No vote on a ballot. Also, if a student receives an average score of 1.9 or below average in any one of the categories of Service, Leadership, or Character and scored higher in two other areas (after all faculty evaluations have been averaged), that student may still be considered for membership. Example: Johnny 's scores - Sub composite scores......Service= 1.8; Leadership= 2.4; Character= 3.0 --- Overall average of 2.4 but low in Service. Even though he scored a 1.8 in the area of Service he is still considered for membership 5.13.12.3 DISMISSAL ARTICLE 7: DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL a. Character: Any violation of school rule/policy and may lead to direct dismissal from National Honor Society. See Article 7: Section 2. Violations of the law or school regulations can result in immediate consideration of the dismissal of a member. These violations include, but are not limited to DWI, stealing, destruction of property, cheating, truancy, or possessing, selling or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school or school-related activities or in the community. b. Scholarship: Any student falling below the 3.50 cumulative grade point average will be on academic probation for one marking period (quarterly), and will be required to obtain a 3.50. Every effort will be made by members of NHS to assist students in achieving the required GPA. The second marking period in which a student falls below the required 3.50 cumulative grade point average results in dismissal. c. Appeals: All appeals to dismissal are in written form, and they will be evaluated by the faculty selection committee, as per the National Honor Society by-laws, constitution, & handbook. d. Faculty council will vote on disciplinary action as deemed necessary considering the nature of the violation. 2. Dismissal Procedures a. No Automatic Dismissal 1.A member can never be dismissed automatically for failing to maintain standards, not meeting member obligations, or even being found guilty of violating school rules or law. 2.A written notification and hearing are called for in Article 7 Section 4, and must be conducted by the Faculty Council to dismiss a member. 3. Members should understand fully that they are subject to dismissal if they do not maintain the standards of scholarship, leadership, service, and character that were used as a basis for their selection. b. Dismissal Procedures Overview 1.A member can be considered for dismissal when performance falls below the acceptable levels of any of the standards by which the student was selected, when the member fails to fulfill chapter obligations, or when the member is found quilty of violating school rules or law. (Immediate consideration of dismissal involve violations that are outlined in Article 7:

Discipline and Dismissal – Hanson Chapter of the National Honor Society by-laws) c. Students will be warned in writing whenever the student falls below any standard. 1.In all cases of pending dismissal, a chapter member shall have a right to be notified in writing of the offenses and to a hearing before the Faculty Council. d. Appeals for Dismissal Cases 1.Should a member be dismissed, the dismissed member may appeal the decision of the Faculty Council first to the Principal and then, as indicated under the local school District's policies governing disciplinary appeals, follow the normal channels for an appeals process. e. Resignation 1.A member who resigns from Hanson Chapter of the National Honor Society will never again be eligible for membership or its benefits.

# **Student Government**

The purpose of student government is to arouse the spirit of loyalty toward the school, to promote good citizenship, to sponsor school activities, to extend the spirit of good fellowship throughout the student body, to foster a spirit of cooperation between the students and faculty, and to seek to develop a spirit of cooperation, good will, and better understanding with other schools. The organization, operation, and scope of the student government shall be administered by the Superintendent or designee.

# Student Publications

The yearbook is published by the Journalism class along with the help of its teacher. The annual is financed partially by funds raised from the sale of the books.

The school paper is "Alexandria Herald (Beaver Chatter)."

# SECTION THREE:

# SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION RULES

# <u>Eligibility</u>

In order to represent a high school in interscholastic athletic competition, a student must abide by eligibility rules of the South Dakota High School Activities Association. Eligibility requirements are established by the SDHSAA in its Constitution and its Bylaws and Approved Rulings. These documents can be found online at https://www.sdhsaa.com/Portals/0/PDFs/Handbook/Athletics/3-Constitution ByLaws.pdf?ver=2016-07-21-131149-890. A summary of the major rules is given below. Contact the principal, activities director or the activity sponsor or coach for an explanation of the complete rule.

- **Age.** The student must be under 20 years of age at the time of participation. Age to be determined by birth date.
- **Enrollment.** The student must have enrolled not later than the sixteenth school day of the current semester.
- **Eight Semester Rule.** A student shall be eligible for four first semesters and four second semesters of interscholastic competition while enrolled in grades 9-12. For the purpose of this subsection, enrollment and attendance in school or participation in one or more contests shall count as a semester of eligibility. Once a student enrolls as a ninth grader, all semesters must be consecutive unless waived as per Article VII, Section 3 (I), page 10 of the SDHSAA Constitution.

# Academic Eligibility.

• **Preceding Semester/Trimester.** The student, unless they are entering high school for the first time, shall have successfully earned a minimum of two (2) units of credit which are used in the issuance of a diploma, for the preceding or for the most recent semester/trimester of attendance in any accredited high school. For the purposes of this subsection, enrollment and attendance in school or participation in one or more contests shall constitute a semester/trimester in determining eligibility. However, the Board of Directors or the Executive Director shall have the authority to waive the attendance rule when and if a student withdraws from school as a result of an injury or illness and does not return to any school for the remainder of the semester/trimester and the student does not receive any high school course credits.

NOTE: Failure to earn two (2) units of credit the previous semester/trimester causes the student to become ineligible the entire following semester/trimester. NOTE: Only credits accepted by the school for graduation may be used in determining whether a student successfully earned two (2) units of credit. Source: Minutes of the January 10-11, 2001 Board of Directors Meeting.

• **Current Semester.** The student shall (a) be enrolled in an accredited high school and attend courses for which a minimum of two (2) units of credit may be earned towards the issuance of a diploma, (b) be receiving alternative instruction as set forth in SDCL § 13-27-3 or (c) any student in grades ten, eleven, or twelve may apply to an institution of higher education or a postsecondary vocational education institution as a special student in a course or courses offered at the institution. Correspondence/college courses approved in advance by

the high school principal for which credits earned are used in the issuance of a high school diploma may count towards the two (2) units of credit eligibility requirement. (Refer to SDCL § 13-28-37)

- **Project Grades.** A student's grades which are dependent upon completion of a project such as a vocational education project after the close of the academic school year shall be determined by the grade averages of record assuming satisfactory completion of the project.
- **Credit recovery.** Students who have been declared ineligible because of academic deficiencies from the previous semester/trimester may earn scholastic/academic eligibility by taking an academic course(s) via the options approved by the SD Department of Education. Examples include, but not limited to, on-line courses, in-district credit recovery courses, alternative education settings, digital courses, etc. The principal must monitor the successful completion of the course(s) and reinstate eligibility only after the successful completion of 2 units of credit as per Chapter I, Part IV, Section 1, Subsection D., page 14 of the Bylaws.
- **Beginning and Ending of a Semester.** For the purpose of this subsection, the first semester shall be considered as ending at midnight on the day before the second semester begins and the second semester shall be considered as starting on the first day classes are held in said semester. The actual ending of the first/second semester or school year, rather than the date of graduation exercises or diploma date, controls the determination when eligibility terminates.

# Eligibility Grades 5-12

Participants must be passing all courses to be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities/performances. Eligibility reports will be ran on Monday morning's beginning after the third full week of each quarter. Any student who has a quarter grade that is an "F" will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular events for the remainder of the week until a new report is ran for the following week. Students will be eligible to attend and take part in practices during the week that they are deemed ineligible to compete in or dress for events as long as it does not involve leaving school early. All coaches/advisors will be notified by the building principal on the first school day of the week of any students deemed ineligible to compete for the week. Students who are deemed ineligible by the weekly eligibility report will also be notified by the building principal on the first school day of the week. All appeals of weekly eligibility will be submitted to the principal in writing and ruled on in a timely manner.

Activities affected by the eligibility rule are:

- 1. All interscholastic contests, including but not limited to, athletics, FFA, FBLA, speech contests, and similar organizations or events.
- 2. Cheerleading.
- 3. Music competition, performances (except Christmas and Spring concerts), and clinics.
- 4. Other activities deemed appropriate by the principal.

# SECTION FOUR: CODE OF CONDUCT

All students associated with Hanson School District and participating in extracurricular or school sponsored activities (including all SDHSAA activities) are required to avoid conduct that is detrimental to the integrity of, and public confidence in, the school. Rules promoting lawful, ethical, and responsible conduct serve the interests of all people associated with the school. Illegal and irresponsible conduct puts people at risk, tarnishes the reputation of the offender and everyone else associated with the school, and undermines the public support and respect of the school district.

**Standard of Conduct.** Participation in school-sponsored or extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Participants must follow board policy, this code, and all the training rules and rules of conduct of the coaches and/or activity sponsors. Students participating in school-sponsored or extracurricular activities are held to a high standard. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a way that is lawful, responsible, promotes the values upon which the school is based, and that brings credit to themselves and the school. Students who fail to live up to the required standard of conduct are guilty of detrimental conduct and subject to discipline under all school policies, the general student code of conduct, and these Activity Participation Rules.

**Coach and Sponsor Rules.** Coaches and/or activity sponsors shall establish training rules or rules of conduct for participation in or attendance at the activity or event. General training rules or rules of conduct shall be established prior to the activity or event. This Code shall control in the event that there is a conflict with coach or sponsor rules.

**Prohibited Conduct.** Students in school-sponsored and/or extracurricular activities may not engage in the following conduct:

- 1. Receipt of a criminal citation by law enforcement for any reason.
- 2. Conviction of a crime in adult court or the adjudication of a criminal charge in juvenile court.

- 3. Any behavior that is illegal under the laws of South Dakota or the United States of America regardless of whether it results in a criminal charge or conviction.
- 4. Any conduct that substantially interferes with the educational process or disrupts the activity or event.
- 5. Possession, consumption, use, distribution, or being under the influence of alcohol, illicit drugs, tobacco, controlled substances, or any lookalike or imitations. "Lookalike or imitations" means substances such as K2 and products like electronic nicotine delivery systems, vapor pens, etc. (Note: the term "under the influence" for school purposes has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the use or abuse of any substance for the purpose of inducing a condition of intoxication, stupefaction, depression, giddiness, paralysis, inebriation, excitement, or irrational behavior, or in any manner changing, distorting, or disturbing the auditory, visual, mental, or nervous processes).
- 6. Engaging in initiations, defined as any ritualistic expectations, requirements, or activities placed upon new members of a school organization for the purpose of admission into the organization, even if those activities do not rise to the level of "hazing" as defined below. Initiations are prohibited except by permission of the superintendent.
- 7. Engaging in hazing as defined by state law and this policy. Hazing is defined as any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of an individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any school organization. Under state criminal law, hazing activities include, but are not limited to, whipping, beating, branding, an act of sexual penetration, an exposure of the genitals of the body done with the intent to affront or alarm any person, a lewd fondling or caressing of the body of another person, forced and prolonged calisthenics, prolonged exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or harmful substance not generally intended for human consumption, prolonged sleep deprivation, or any brutal treatment or the performance of any unlawful act that endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person. For purposes of school rules, hazing also includes any activity expected of someone joining a group, team, or activity that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate; personal servitude; restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling, swearing and insulting new members/rookies; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or

smearing of such on one's skin; binge drinking and drinking games; sexual simulation and sexual assault.

- 8. Bullying which shall include cyber-bullying, defined as the use of the internet, including but not limited to social networking sites such as Facebook, cell phones or other devices to send, post, or text message images and material intended to hurt or embarrass another person. This may include, but is not limited to; continuing to send e-mail to someone who has said they want no further contact with the sender; sending or posting threats, sexual remarks, or pejorative labels (i.e., hate speech); ganging up on victims by making them the subject of ridicule in forums; posting false statements as fact intended to humiliate the victim; disclosure of personal data, such as the victim's real name, address, or school at websites or forums; posing as the identity of the victim for the purpose of publishing material in their name that defames or ridicules them; sending threatening and harassing text, instant messages, or emails to the victims; and posting or sending rumors or gossip to instigate others to dislike and gang up on the target.
- 9. Using any Internet or social networking websites to make statements, post pictures, or take any other actions that are indecent, vulgar, lewd, slanderous, abusive, threatening, harassing, or terrorizing.
- 10. Violating any school policy, handbook provision, or a coach's or activity sponsor's training rules or rules of conduct.
- 11. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is (A) dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others, (B) lewd, indecent, vulgar, or plainly offensive, (C) materially and substantially disruptive to the work and discipline of the school or an extracurricular activity, (D) interpreted to advocate the use of illegal drugs or other substances by a reasonable observer.
- 12. Failing to report for an activity at the beginning of a season unless excused by the coach or activity sponsor.
- 13. Failing to attend scheduled practices and meetings unless excused by the coach or activity sponsor.

<u>Such conduct is prohibited during the school year, regardless of</u> <u>whether it occurs on-campus or off-campus</u>. School year means the period commencing on the first day of fall sports practice through the last day of spring sports practice, events, or attendance at school for a given school year.

# <u>Discipline</u>

FIRST OFFENSE: For the purposes of this Policy the word "offense" means violation of District rules of general deportment, activity rules, or training

rules. A first offense results in loss of eligibility for the next two weeks or two contests; whichever is greater. All students will meet with a coach's committee prior to serving their suspension.

SECOND OFFENSE: If during one calendar year from the first offense, confirmation is received that the student has again violated District activity training rules, it will be considered a second offense. A second offense results in loss of eligibility for the next five (5) weeks or four (4) contests or events; whichever is greater. All students will meet with a coach's committee prior to serving their suspension.

THIRD OFFENSE: If during one calendar year from the second offense, confirmation is received that the student has again violated the District activity and training rules, it will be considered a third offense. The student will lose eligibility in all activities for one calendar year. In the event the student commits the offense between seasons, the suspension will begin with the first day of practice of the next activity in which the student participates and will include the minimum number of contests or events. In the event the student commits the offense during the school year but after the student's participation is complete, the student will forfeit any "letter" or participation award. All students will meet with a coach's committee prior to serving their suspension.

RULES FOR SUSPENSION The student will participate in all scheduled practices and team or activity meetings. The student will travel with the team and sit with the team in street clothes for all games or performances. The student may not wear any part of the Hanson uniform during this time. This includes during school, after school, or during the game. NO student will be allowed to start an activity season late for the purpose of serving a suspension. The coach or director may not add any time to the suspension based upon the violation in question, but may add extra work as may be appropriate.

# AUTHORIZATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

# WARNING: SERIOUS CATASTROPHIC AND PERHAPS FATAL INJURY MAY RESULT FROM ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Many forms of athletic competition result in violent physical contact among players, the use of equipment that may result in accidents, strenuous physical exertion, and numerous other exposures to risk of injury. Students and parents must assess the risks involved in such participation and make their choice to participate in spite of those risks. No amount of instruction, precaution, or supervision will eliminate these risks. Students have suffered accidents resulting in death, paraplegia, quadriplegia, and other very serious permanent physical impairment while playing sports. By granting permission for your student to participate in athletic competition, you, the parent or guardian, acknowledge that such risk exists. Students will be instructed in proper techniques to be used in athletic competition and in the proper utilization of all equipment worn or used in practice and competition. Students must adhere to that instruction and utilization and must refrain from improper uses and techniques.

I understand the statement above and I understand that by allowing my student to participate in athletic events, I assume the risk that he/she may be injured, perhaps severely.

Signature of Parent

Printed Name of Parent

Date

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONDUCT CODE

I understand that as a student representing the school district in activities, I am obligated to comply with the athletic handbook, including the code of conduct. This means that I may not possess or use alcohol, illicit drugs, or controlled substances at any time during the school term. I understand that if I violate the code of conduct or other rules in this handbook, I may be suspended from participation in all co-curricular activities and/or school sponsored activities or events.

Signature of Student

Printed Name of Student

Date

I understand that my student is obligated by this handbook, including the statements above.

Signature of Parent

Printed Name of Parent

Date