

# **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARTICIPANTS IN PARKWAY ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES**

## **Rationale**

Secondary students who participate in athletics and co-curricular activities are thought of as school leaders. They represent the school in the eyes of the community. They serve as role models for other students. As such, these students should be held to a high standard of behavior. Such students need to maintain their physical and mental well-being not only while at school and school-sponsored activities, but at other times as well. In an effort to achieve these goals, Parkway has developed a prevention program which includes an Athletic and Activity Student Pledge. To participate in school sponsored athletics and designated school sponsored activities, an Athletic and Activity Student Pledge must be signed by students and their parents are requested to indicate support of the Code by signing the pledge along with their student.

## **The Code of Conduct**

The following Code of Conduct applies to secondary students who participate in sports teams sponsored by the Parkway School District and activities governed by MSHSAA. The activities will also include Student Government and National Honor Society. The Code is as follows:

1. **Drugs:** Students shall not use, possess or attempt to obtain any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, or other controlled substance of any kind. (Unless prescribed by a physician.)
2. **Alcohol:** Students shall not use, possess or attempt to obtain any alcoholic beverage of any kind, including but not limited to beer, wine, and hard liquor.

This Code applies to student athletes only during the athletic season and to students involved in MSHSAA activities only during that part of the school year when the activity is taking place. However, during that time period, the Code applies to students twenty-four hours a day whether or not students are at school.

## **Consequences of Violation**

Consequences for violation of the Code's prohibition of drug and alcohol use and possession during the season include the following:

- \* The first violation shall result in the student being suspended from team competition or from all co-curricular activities for two weeks. During the two week suspension, students seeking reinstatement to a team or activity must attend, with their parent or guardian, two drug and alcohol education meetings at West County Psychological Associates, or a similar organization. After completion of the two week suspension and the two required educational meetings, a reinstatement meeting will be

held involving the student, his or her parents or guardian, the coach or sponsor, the building activities coordinator, and the principal to allow the student to recommit to being drug and alcohol free. If, in the judgment of the school officials, the student recommits, he or she will be allowed to again participate in team competition or the designated co-curricular activities governed by MSHSAA.

\* A second violation will result in the student being removed from all school-sponsored designated MSHSAA activities for a one year period. Prior to reinstatement, the student must have attended at least two drug and alcohol education meetings and must have recommitted to being drug and alcohol free at a reinstatement meeting.

\* A third violation will result in the student being permanently disqualified from participation in all school sponsored designated MSHSAA activities. Exceptions must be approved in writing by the superintendent.

\* Violations of the Honor Code will be deemed authentic based on the word of an authorized adult, defined as a coach or sponsor, administrator, teacher, police officer, or the student's parent or guardian, or by the admission of the student.

\* Students in activities or athletics who violate the district's rules and regulations on drug or alcohol use or possession at school or during school activities, in addition to the consequences set out herein, are subject to established consequences in Parkway's discipline policy.

### **Implementation Procedures**

The following additional procedures shall apply in the implementation of the Code of Conduct:

\* Prior to the suspension of a student from a team competition or co-curricular activity, the coach or sponsor shall hold an informal conference with the student wherein: (1) the student shall be informed of the alleged violation; (2) parents will be contacted immediately; (3) if the student denies the allegation, the student shall be given an explanation of the facts which form the basis for the proposed suspension; (4) the student shall be given an opportunity to present his or her version of the incident.

\* In determining whether there has been a violation of the Code of Conduct, coaches and sponsors should decide, based on statements of those individuals who have been interviewed, whether they believe that a violation has occurred. Good judgment is an essential part of this process.

\* A student may appeal a suspension by writing to the building principal. The building principal shall investigate and make a ruling within 2 school days of the principal's receipt of the request for an appeal.

\* The decision by the building principal may be appealed in writing to the superintendent of schools. The student shall simultaneously send a copy of the appeal request to the district's Activities Director, who shall investigate and make a

recommendation to the superintendent. Such an appeal shall be resolved within five school days of the superintendent's receipt of the appeal. The superintendent's judgment shall be final.

\* The time frames for resolving appeals, contained herein may be extended by mutual consent. During the appeal process, students are not eligible to compete.

# Parkway Athletics and Activities Honor Code

## Student Pledge

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As a participant in designated sports/activities, I agree to abide by all laws and rules regarding the use of alcohol and other illegal drugs. Chemical dependency is a progressive, but treatable, disease characterized by continued drinking or other drug use in spite of recurring problems resulting from that use. Knowing that athletics and activities are a privilege, I accept and pledge to abide by the Code of Conduct attached hereto, and other rules established by my coach or sponsor.

To demonstrate my commitment, I pledge:

1. To abstain from the use and possession of alcohol and other illegal drugs
2. To seek information and assistance in dealing with any chemical dependency problems
3. To approach my parents, coach, or sponsor about my needs and problems
4. To follow training rules established by my coach or sponsor to promote my health and well-being.

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Student Name (Print)

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Student Signature

Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature

Date