

CITIZENSHIP STANDARDS FOR PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL SPONSORED EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

A. Introduction

Participation in a school sponsored extra-curricular activity or sport is a privilege. These activities are important components of our total educational program. Successful participation in school sponsored extra-curricular activities requires a higher level of commitment, energy, and maturity.

It is the goal of Seminole County Public Schools to expect a higher standard of excellence from students involved in these activities. Participating students are representing our schools in our neighborhoods, our communities, our state and often our nation. The standard of behavior should be one that exhibits pride, politeness, and responsibility.

Parents and students should seriously discuss the impact of the extra time, energy, and maturity required to participate in these activities, and the strict eligibility rules a student must follow to remain qualified for such activities.

B. Purpose

1. To provide minimum citizenship standards among all Seminole County Secondary Schools for continued participation in school sponsored extra-curricular activities.
2. To instill in each student a sense of responsibility to conduct himself/herself as a positive role model.
3. To encourage the growth of good citizenship among participants in school sponsored extra-curricular activities.
4. To delineate the sanctions that will be imposed for violation of this policy.

SECTION 2. APPLICABILITY

These standards apply to all students participating in School Board approved extra-curricular activities sponsored by the school. Furthermore, these standards apply 24 hours a day for the duration of an activity season. An activity season is considered to be that span of time that commences with the first group/team meeting or tryouts, and runs through any pre-season or regular season practices, competition, or activities, and concludes with any post season or state qualifying play or culminating activity.

SECTION 3. PROCESSING REPORTS OF VIOLATIONS

Reports of alleged violations of the Citizenship Standards for Participation shall be made to the principal or his/her designee. The principal or his/her designee shall conduct an investigation to determine the validity of any allegations. If it is determined that it is reasonable to believe a violation has occurred, the student and his/her parents shall be notified of the alleged violation,

of the possibility of extra-curricular sanctions, and of a right to an informal hearing where evidence may be presented.

A hearing must be requested within seven (7) calendar days of the date of the notification by the principal or his/her designee of the violations. If a hearing is requested, the principal or his/her designee shall conduct one within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of the hearing request. If no hearing is requested, or the hearing request is received after the deadline, the principal or his/her designee shall make a determination whether or not a sanction should be imposed.

Hearings shall be conducted in a manner that affords students with a full opportunity to present his/her version of the offense. However, these hearings are not formal legal proceedings and are not required to be conducted in accordance with the rules of procedure normally associated with formal administrative hearings or court proceedings. The decision of the principal is final and is not subject to appeal. If it is determined that a student did commit a violation of the Citizenship Standards Policy the sanctions shall be imposed immediately. 26

SECTION 4. SANCTIONS

A. Suspension from Participation in Events

Students found to have violated the Citizenship Standards Policy shall be suspended from participation in extra-curricular events in accordance with the sanctions outlined in the *Summary Table of Infractions and Consequences*. The sanctions outlined in this policy establish the minimum disciplinary sanction a sponsor or coach shall take in responding to a violation of the Citizenship Standards Policy. Coaches and sponsors have the authority to increase the duration of suspension from participation in extra-curricular events for any violation of this policy.

Students suspended from participation shall not be permitted to participate in any event related activities, dress out for the event, or travel to the event with the team or group. An event is defined as a game, activity, or contest. A tournament experience is considered to be a single event, even though a tournament consists of more than one game, activity, or contest. When School Board Policy permits, and with permission of the coach or sponsor, students under suspension from participation may participate in tryouts, practices, or meetings while waiting for a sanction to be completed. However, coaches and sponsors may prohibit students from participating in tryouts, practices, or meetings when they deem such action is appropriate. It is beyond the scope of this policy to identify every possible action on the part of a student that may be deemed as undesirable by a coach or sponsor. Therefore, coaches and sponsors may impose appropriate disciplinary consequences for acts not specifically identified in the *Summary Table of Infractions and Consequences*. Furthermore, nothing in this policy shall prohibit coaches from dismissing or removing a student from a team or group when coaches or sponsors conclude such action is warranted.

B. Imposing Sanctions

Sanctions shall remain in effect until they are completed. This may require sanctions assigned as a consequence for a violation of the Citizenship Standards Policy be completed during an activity season that is different from the activity that was in effect when the violation occurred. When necessary, the balance of any unfulfilled sanction shall be completed in the following school year in which the student is enrolled.

Students may be given the opportunity to reduce up to one-half the number of events they are to be suspended from for a *first time* tobacco violation of the Citizenship Standards Policy. Students are eligible for this consideration only if they document to the principal completion of a tobacco or smoking cessation class or a tobacco education class that is approved by the Seminole County Public School Safe and Drug Free Schools Committee.

Students may be given the opportunity to reduce up to one half (1/2) the number of events they are to be suspended from for a *first time* drug or alcohol related violation of the Citizenship Standards Policy. Students are eligible for this consideration only if they comply with the principal's requirements for a drug/alcohol assessment from a licensed drug/alcohol counselor and they follow any recommendations made by the counselor. 27

**Citizenship Standards for Participation
Summary Table of Infractions and Consequences**

ON CAMPUS VIOLATIONS

LEVEL 1 - IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION - If a student is assigned In-School Suspension, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from:

1 Event to 10 Events

LEVEL 2 - OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION - If a student is assigned Out-of-School Suspension, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from:

10% of Events to all Events (minimum of 2)

LEVEL 3 - RETURN TO ZONED SCHOOL UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF A WAIVER and DISTRICT BEHAVIOR CONTRACT - If a student is allowed to return to a zoned school under conditions of a Waiver and District Behavior Contract as an alternative to expulsion, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from:

50% of Events to All Events for 1 Calendar Year

LEVEL 4 - ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENT UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF A WAIVER and DISTRICT BEHAVIOR CONTRACT - If a student is allowed to attend the district alternative school or another Alternative Educational Assignment as an alternative to expulsion, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from:

All Events for the Duration of Placement to All Events for the Duration of the Student's Enrollment in the Seminole County Public Schools

LEVEL 5 - EXPULSION - If a student is Expelled from all Seminole County Public Schools, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from:

All Events for 1 Calendar Year and/or the extent of the expulsion to All Events for the Duration of the Student's Enrollment in the Seminole County Public Schools

**Citizenship Standards for Participation
Summary Table of Infractions and Consequences**

OFF CAMPUS VIOLATIONS

LEVEL 1 - FALSE IDENTIFICATION or TOBACCO PRODUCT USE - If a student is found to have possessed or used False Identification, or possessed or used Tobacco Products, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from:

2 Events to All Events for 1 Calendar Year

LEVEL 2 - DRUG/ALCOHOL VIOLATION - If a student is found to have possessed, used, or been under the influence of Drugs, Alcohol, Controlled Substances, Intoxicants, Substances Capable of Modifying Mood or Behavior, or Prescription Medication without a physician's prescription, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from:

20% of Events to All Events for 1 Calendar Year

LEVEL 3 - ARREST BY LAW ENFORCEMENT - If a student is Arrested for committing an off campus misdemeanor or delinquent act, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from:

0 to All Events Pending School Administrative Review

LEVEL 4 - ARREST BY LAW ENFORCEMENT – If a student is Arrested for committing an off campus felony, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from: 50% of Events to All Events for the Duration of the Student's Enrollment in the Seminole County Public Schools

LEVEL 5 - FORMAL CHARGES FILED - If a student is Formally Charged with committing an off campus felony, misdemeanor, or a delinquent act, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from:

All Events for 1 Calendar Year to All Events for the Duration of the Student's Enrollment in the Seminole County Public Schools

LEVEL 6 - CHARGES CONFIRMED – If a student is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to have committed an off campus felony, misdemeanor, or a delinquent act, then the student shall be suspended from a number of events ranging from:

All Events for 1 Calendar Year to all events for the duration of the Student's Enrollment in the Seminole County Public Schools