

**2025-2026**

**Fort Davis Junior-Senior High School  
UIL & Extracurricular Handbook**



**“Inspire to Reach Higher”**

**Fort Davis Independent School District  
P.O. Box 1339  
Fort Davis, TX 79734  
(432) 426-4444**

## Table of Contents

<b>Preface</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Board of Trustees</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Coaching/Sponsor Staff</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Philosophy</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Mission Statement</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Objectives of the U.I.L. &amp; Extracurricular Program</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Expectations</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>U.I.L. &amp; Extracurricular Participation Guidelines</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Fort Davis Expectations of U.I.L. &amp; Extracurricular Participants</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Rules Governing Practice and Competition</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Annual Athletic Banquet</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Booster Club Guidelines</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Cell Phones</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Conflict Resolution</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Dismissal Policy</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Dress Code</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Drug Testing Policy</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Fundraising</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Game/Contest/Performance Policy</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Injuries and Illnesses</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>In-School Suspension, Out-of-School Suspension, or DAEP</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Issued Equipment</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Language—Inappropriate</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Lettering</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Meals</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Mid-Season—Entering a Sport</b>	<b>14</b>

<b>Off-Season</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Physicals</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Practice Policy</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Quitting Policy</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Senior Student Athletes</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Social Media</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Spring Sports</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Summer Conditioning</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Team Travel</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Tutorials</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Two-a-Days Policy</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>APPENDIX A</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>APPENDIX B</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>APPENDIX C</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>APPENDIX D</b>	<b>21</b>



## Preface

To Students and Parents:

The Fort Davis Junior-Senior School U.I.L. & Extracurricular Participation Handbook contains information that students and parents are likely to need during the school year. This handbook is organized alphabetically by topic. Throughout the handbook, the term “the student’s parent” is used to refer to the parent, legal guardian, or other person who has agreed to assume school-related responsibility for a student.

Students and parents also need to be familiar with the Fort Davis Independent School District Code of Conduct, which sets out the consequences for inappropriate behavior. The Code of Conduct is required by state law and is intended to promote school safety and an atmosphere for learning. That document is provided as a separate document.

The **U.I.L. & Extracurricular Participation Handbook** is designed to be in harmony with Board policy as well as the **Student and Parent Handbook** and the **Student Code of Conduct** adopted by the Board. Please be aware that this document is updated annually, while policy adoption and revision is an ongoing process. Therefore, any changes in policy that affect U.I.L. & Extracurricular Participation handbook provisions will be made available to students and parents through newsletters and other communications. These changes will generally supersede provisions found in this handbook that have been made obsolete by newly adopted policy.

Please note that references to policy codes are included to help parents confirm current policy. A copy of the District’s Policy Manual is available online at [www.fdisd.com](http://www.fdisd.com). In case of conflict between Board policy or the Student Code of Conduct and any provisions of student handbooks, the provisions of Board policy or the Student Code of Conduct that were most recently adopted by the Board are to be followed.

Fort Davis Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, or disability in providing education services, activities, and programs, including vocational programs, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

Fort Davis Independent School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs. The Superintendent has been designated to coordinate compliance with these nondiscrimination requirements.

For information about your rights and grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator:

Superintendent  
Fort Davis Independent School District  
P.O. Box 1339  
Fort Davis, TX 79734  
Telephone: (432) 426-4440

**Board of Trustees**

James Weaver  
Pene Ferguson  
Julia Hernandez  
Julie McIvor  
Brenda Vargas  
Ben Wilson  
Tommy Everett

School Board meeting agendas are posted at the administrative office,  
on all school campuses, and on the school website.

**Administration**

Superintendent	Graydon Hicks, III
Deputy Superintendent	Michelle Hartmann
High School Principal	
Elementary Principal	Shera Welch
Student Services Coord.	Rebecca Puckett
Athletic Director	Jonathan Hughes
Secretary/PEIMS	Julie Lewis
Technology Director	Laura Gonzalez

**Coaching/Sponsor Staff**

Basketball-Boys	Jonathan Hughes
Basketball-Girls	TJ Graham
Cheer	Yani Ponce
Cross Country	George Hazlehurst
Debate	Sara Pittman
FFA	Mayle Chambliss
Football	Jonathan Hughes
Golf	Sara Pittman
One Act Play	Stessa Miles
Spanish Club	Martha Sanchez
Tennis	Kelly Boultinghouse
Track	Jonathan Hughes
UIL Academics	Various Teachers
Volleyball	Kelly Boultinghouse

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Welcome to the University Interscholastic League. The UIL is the governing body for 1,460 public high schools and nearly 2,100 middle and junior high schools in Texas. The UIL, which began in 1910, is the largest inter school organization of its kind in the world, offering 23 athletic activities to more than one million student-athletes.

The purpose of the UIL is to organize and properly supervise contests that assist in preparing students to become better citizens. Our aim is to provide healthy, character building, educational activities carried out under rules providing for good sportsmanship and fair play for all participants.

Contests could not exist without rules. Therefore, UIL rules are adopted and modified by public school administrators whose responsibility is the overall educational program of the local school district rather than individual contests. The superintendent ensures that contests remain strictly amateur and educational in nature.

The UIL athletic program is based on the premise that athletes are students first and that athletic participation is a privilege rather than a right. Students learn teamwork and group responsibility. They also learn to deal with success and to overcome adversity. Research shows those who participate in extra-curricular activities tend to make better grades and have fewer discipline problems than those who do not participate.

Throughout this publication you'll notice references to your "student athlete", rather than your "athlete" because we believe that your children are students first, and athletic participation is a privilege.

Here are some statistics to keep in mind:

- There are over one million high school football players and almost one million basketball players in grades 9-12 nationally. Of those numbers, about 250 make it to the NFL, and about 50 make an NBA team.
- The odds of a high school football player being selected to play for an NFL team are about 6,000 to 1.
- The odds of a high school athlete competing in the NBA are even greater.
- The NCAA is made up of 977 schools classified in three divisions, and less than 25,000 student athletes compete for NCAA titles annually, most of whom are not on athletic scholarships.

With this in mind, it is important to focus on your student's academic career in addition to their success on the playing field or court.

This manual is provided to assist in guiding you and your child through the UIL process. Please take time to read each section and feel free to visit our extensive web site at [www.uiltexas.org](http://www.uiltexas.org). Of course you may also call any of our staff members for clarification of any questions you may have.

Dr. Susan Elza,  
UIL Director of Athletics

### **Philosophy**

The United States Supreme Court has ruled that Athletics is a *privilege* provided by the school district. The University Interscholastic Leagues references athletics as a “privilege” which can be revoked at any time if an athlete fails to meet standards of the program.

Fort Davis Independent School District Athletics is a means to improve academics, build character, develop life skills, and strive for athletic excellence in competition.

### **Mission Statement**

The Fort Davis Jr./Sr. High School coaching staff and sponsor’s mission is to use U.I.L. and extracurricular participation to improve our students’ academic performance, to teach and improve positive character traits and to give each participating student training that will enable him/her to compete in his/her event or contest at the highest level.

Staff members will partner with parents to always keep the best interest of participants as the primary focus. At the same time, the staff will keep parents informed of not only what we are doing, but also why. The staff will treat parents with respect and will always listen with an understanding that the staff is responsible for the parents’ most precious commodity – their child.

The Fort Davis Jr./Sr. High School coaching staff and sponsors will strive to be a valuable member of both the academic and social community of which each is a part. Each understands and takes pride in the fact he/she represents FDISD and knows the primary task is to be a positive role model for all U.I.L. & extracurricular participants.

### **Objectives of the U.I.L. & Extracurricular Program**

- I. To ensure every U.I.L. & extracurricular participants receive an education.
- II. To represent Fort Davis Jr./Sr. High School to the highest degree of excellence and dignity.
- III. To build character and become better people through U.I.L. & extracurricular programs.
- IV. To become healthy, mentally and physically fit, and reduce the chance of injury.
- V. To understand that hard work, commitment, and perseverance begets success.
- VI. To have fun and enjoy the complete U.I.L. & extracurricular experience.

### **Expectations**

- I. Student athlete – attendance, commitment, and attitude. The student athlete must come to practice every day on time, fulfill the practice and competition requirements, and exhibit a positive attitude.
- II. Coach/Sponsor – the coach/sponsor is expected to teach the skills needed to improve performance and teach positive life skills.
- III. Parents – support the U.I.L. & extracurricular program, support your child in his/her extracurricular endeavors, support the coaches/sponsors by respecting the rules and decisions made by those in charge, and respect other fans, coaches, players and officials.

### **U.I.L. & Extracurricular Participation Guidelines**

1. Must meet all University Interscholastic League requirements.
2. Meet all District standards, requirements, and rules.
3. Must meet age level and grade level requirements set forth by the University Interscholastic League.
4. Must have passed, and submitted a copy to the Athletic Director, an annual physical examination (athletics) conducted by a medical doctor prior to participation in any sport.
5. Must be officially enrolled in the school for which they are participating.
6. Must be passing all classes for which they are enrolled.
7. Student athletes must have on file with the Athletic Director a signed acknowledgement of rules and parental consent form.
8. Student athletes must have on file with the Athletic Director a signed Code of Conduct form, Acknowledgement of Rules form, Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness form, Concussion Acknowledgement form, and Anabolic Steroid Use and Random Steroid Testing form.

### **Fort Davis Expectations of U.I.L. & Extracurricular Participants**

1. Student athletes must have on file with the Athletic Director a signed copy of Fort Davis Athlete Contract and Pledge.
2. All students in any extracurricular activity must be drug, tobacco, and alcohol free.
3. All students in any extracurricular activity must maintain passing grades throughout the school year.
4. All students in any extracurricular activity must abide by team/group rules as set forth by the athletic director, sponsors and coaches.
5. All students in any extracurricular activity must model good behavior and character in and out of the classroom.
6. All students in any extracurricular activity must be trustworthy in all you do.
7. All students in any extracurricular activity must be fair and live up to high standards of fair play and competition.
8. All students in any extracurricular activity must promote the well-being of teammates with respect and positive encouragement on and off the court, field, stage, etc.

9. All students in any extracurricular activity must be on time for all practices, performances and games, unless otherwise coordinated.
10. All students in any extracurricular activity must play by the rules at all times.
11. All students in any extracurricular activity must show respect to officials, opposing players/contestants, fans and coaches/sponsors.
12. Student athletes should be enrolled in the athletic period/off season conditioning unless approved by the head coach of that sport, director, principal, or superintendent.
13. All students in any extracurricular activity must have the consent of the head coach/sponsor, director, principal, or superintendent if there is a history of rules violations.

### **Rules Governing Practice and Competition**

1. All tattoos will be covered during practice and participation in any extracurricular competition/contest/performance.
2. Student athletes will not be allowed to wear jewelry, including body piercing while practicing or participating in an athletic contest.
3. Student athletes must wear uniform with jersey tucked in pants unless the jersey is cut in such a way as to be worn outside of pants. This rule will be enforced during practice, warm-ups, and competition.
4. Student athletes will not be permitted to wear any insignia or patch unless authorized by the coach or UIL
5. Student athlete must display sportsmanship at all times. Student athletes will be required to sign a sportsmanship code of conduct as found in the UIL Sportsmanship Manual and will be expected to abide by the contract. Failure to abide by the contract could lead to severe consequences including, but not limited to: suspension, or dismissal from the program.
6. Students who participate in more than one extracurricular activity during the same season, or in overlapping seasons, must be aware that practice and competitions for teams, or for playoff appearances, take precedence over practice and competitions for individual activities. For instance, a basketball player cannot miss a game to participate in a golf meet; a player cannot miss an area/regional/state competition in order to participate in an invitational competition.
7. District and playoff competitions take precedence over invitationals and non-district competitions. For instance, a volleyball player cannot miss a volleyball playoff game in order to attend a debate invitational meet.
8. Students who participate in multiple individual activities during the same season may be required to rotate competitions based on which activity they performed in last. For instance, a student who is in individual events in track and tennis and who most recently competed in tennis may be required to compete at the next track meet.

### **Annual Athletic Banquet**

The annual athletic banquet will be in April/May unless otherwise notified. Changes may occur due to availability of facilities or other conflicts. Students and parents are encouraged to attend.

### **Booster Club Guidelines**

The Fort Davis Indian Booster Club is an organization that is separate from the school district and district funds. The booster club is organized to support students of the school district and to help enrich the school's participation in extracurricular activities.

The UIL has set forth guidelines to govern fundraising activities and the expenditure of funds.

### **Cell Phones**

Cell phones are not considered a necessary accessory at practice, events, or on trips. If the coach/sponsor feels that the cell phone is a distraction, the cell phone may be confiscated and returned at the end of the trip. Coaches will have cell phones for emergency situations.

### **Conflict Resolution**

Students and parents need to respect the rules and decisions made by those in charge, staying positive about every aspect of the group, team, coaches/sponsors, and officials. Parents are welcome to ask a coach/sponsor for a meeting or to ask a question. Parents should never approach the coach/sponsor or their child in a negative manner during the game/performance, at half-time, or immediately after a game/performance. Proper deference should be shown toward the coach/sponsor by scheduling an appointment with him/her to discuss concerns in private when he/she can offer his/her undivided attention.

If a student or parent has a grievance, concern, or problem, it is his/her responsibility to follow the proper chain of command. First, discuss the problem with the head coach/sponsor. If resolution cannot be reached, present the problem with the Athletic Director, or principal. If a higher authority is warranted, the Athletic Director will take the concern to the proper administrator. It is NEVER proper to discuss problems within the UIL and/or extracurricular program with other members of the student body.

### **Dismissal Policy**

Dismissal from a sport or extracurricular activity is considered a very serious matter. Should a student be dismissed from a team or activity, the student will be allowed an exit interview with his/her parents present and will only be allowed to participate in another sport with the permission of the head coach/sponsor of the next sport, the athletic director, principal, or superintendent. The student athlete may be suspended until district play of the next sport's scheduled season. The student athlete may not be allowed to begin practice for another sport or event until the first sport or event's season is concluded.

### **Dress Code**

Students will be expected to conform to all dress codes set forth by the district. Travel dress code may be determined by season, by the head coach. School dress code will be followed if not otherwise designated by the coach/sponsor. If appropriate dress code is not met, the student may not be permitted to compete/perform or to travel with the team.

### **Drug Testing Policy**

As per board policy FNF(LEGAL) AND FNF(LOCAL), the following guidelines have been established regarding the district's mandatory drug testing policy.

#### **Scope**

The district requires drug testing of any student in grades 9-12 who chooses to participate in any school-sponsored extracurricular activities. Each student participating in these activities shall be tested for the presence of illegal drugs and alcohol at least once during each semester. In addition, students shall be randomly tested throughout the school year.

#### **Purpose**

The purposes of the drug testing program are to prevent injury, illness, and harm resulting from the use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol; help enforce a drug-free educational environment; deter student use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs and alcohol; and educate students regarding the harm caused by the use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol.

#### **Distribution of Policy**

The district shall provide each parent and student a copy of the drug testing policy and consent form prior to the student's first drug test.

#### **Orientation Meeting**

The district shall conduct a meeting to provide an opportunity for parents and interested student participants prior to the administration of the first drug test each school year. District employees shall explain the drug testing program, review the policy and consent form, and provide an opportunity to receive

educational information on the harmful effects of drug and alcohol abuse. Student attendance at the orientation meeting is mandatory. Parents shall be encouraged to attend the orientation meeting; however, parent attendance is not required.

**Consent**

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, the student shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be the subject to the rules and procedures of the drug testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities.

**Use of Results**

Drug tests results shall be used only to determine eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities. Positive drug test results shall not be used to impose disciplinary sanctions or academic penalties. Nevertheless, nothing in this policy shall limit or affect the application of state law, local policy, or the Student Code of Conduct.

**Confidentiality**

Drug testing results shall be confidential and shall be disclosed only to the student, the student's parent or guardian, and designated district officials who need the information in order to administer the drug testing program. Drug test results shall not be maintained with a student's academic record. Results shall not be otherwise disclosed except as required by law.

**Testing Laboratory**

The board shall contract with a certified drug testing laboratory to conduct testing of students' urine samples. Testing laboratories shall not release statistics regarding the rate of positive drug tests to any person or organization without consent of the district.

**Substances For Which Tests Are Conducted**

The district shall test for the presence of: alcohol; performance-enhancing substances, including anabolic steroids; marijuana; cocaine; amphetamines; methamphetamines; opiates; heroin, Ecstasy, PCP, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, propoxyphene; synthetic opiates.

**Collection Procedures**

Personnel from the drug testing laboratory shall collect urine samples under conditions that are no more intrusive than the conditions experienced in a public restroom. When selected for testing, a student shall be escorted to the school's testing site by a district employee and shall remain under employee supervision until the student provides a sample. A student shall produce a sample within a closed restroom stall. A district employee of the same gender as the student shall be present when any samples are collected.

**Random Testing**

Random tests shall be conducted on as many as five dates throughout the school year. No less than ten percent of the students participating in the program shall be randomly selected for each random test date. The drug testing laboratory shall use a random selection method to identify students chosen for random testing. Students shall not receive prior notice of the testing date or time.

**Refusal to Test or Tampering**

A student who refuses to be tested when selected, or who is determined to have tampered with a sample, shall be deemed to have a positive test result and shall be subject to the appropriate consequences depending on previous positive results, if any.

If a student is absent on the day of the random test or on the day of comprehensive testing, the student shall be responsible for obtaining a valid test from a licensed physician or licensed medical facility and shall provide the district an official lab report in a sealed envelope.

**Confirmation of Positive Results**

An initial positive test shall be confirmed by a second test of the same specimen before being reported as positive. Upon confirming results of a positive drug test, the district shall schedule a meeting with the student, the student's parent if the student is under the age of 18, and the coach or sponsor of the extracurricular activity to review the test results and discuss consequences. The student or parent shall have ten school days following the meeting to provide a medical explanation for a positive result.

**Retesting**

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities after any applicable consequences, the student must be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative test result. The student shall be responsible for obtaining this retest from a licensed physician or licensed medical facility and shall provide the district an official lab report in a sealed envelope. Following that, the student shall be retested on the next two random test dates so long as the student wishes to participate in extracurricular activities.

**Drug Abuse Prevention**

The district shall notify the parent and student of drug and alcohol abuse prevention resources available in the area.

**Consequences**

Consequences of positive test results shall be cumulative through the end of the current school year.

**First Offense**

Upon a first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity for 15 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results. During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

**Second Offense**

Upon a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity for 30 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results. During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

**Third Offense**

Upon a third offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity for 365 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results. During the period of suspension, the student shall not be permitted to participate in practices.

**Appeals**

A student or parent may appeal a decision made under this policy in accordance with FNG(LOCAL). The student shall be ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities while the appeal is pending.

**Fundraising**

Fundraising is a means to supplement budgets of the athletic and/or other departments. At times throughout the year you may be asked to help in said fundraising activities. Please be aware if a fundraiser is conducted, the student will be responsible for monies relating to the fundraiser. All sponsors must receive permission from the principal, or superintendent, to conduct any fundraiser.

The UIL has set forth guidelines to govern fundraising activities and the expenditures of funds.

**Game/Contest/Performance Policy**

Each student is expected to be present at all competitions, contests, or performances. Should a student miss a competition, contest, or performance without prior approval from the head coach/sponsor, the student may be subject to suspended participation time or suspension from the next game. Contact the head coach/sponsor as soon as possible if there becomes a conflict with the competition/contest/performance schedule.

**Injuries and Illnesses**

The safety of each athlete is of the utmost importance. All coaches have been certified in First Aid and CPR. Should an injury occur, initial treatment will be provided immediately by the coaching staff, sponsor or appropriate personnel. Parents will be contacted as soon as possible in the event of an injury.

Depending on the severity of the injury, medical advice will be obtained regarding treatment.

Regarding illnesses that prevent a student from participating in an extracurricular practice or event, the student must turn in a parent note to the coach or sponsor. If the illness will prevent the student from participation in practice or events for more than 3 days, a note from a medical professional must be turned in to the coach or sponsor, unless the student is being required to follow the district's infectious disease protocol.

### **In-School Suspension, Out-of-School Suspension, or DAEP**

1. Any student/athlete that is assigned ISS, OSS, or DAEP will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity during the scheduled school day, including practice or attending games. Students in ISS may practice after school hours only, but will not play in a game on a day in which they are assigned ISS.
2. This will include any activities that are on the student's last day in ISS.
3. Students/athletes that miss practices or games due to ISS, OSS, or DAEP will be subject to additional consequences imposed by the head coach/sponsor of that sport which could include extra running, suspended playing time, or suspended games.
4. Repeated assignments in ISS, OSS, or DAEP could result in removal from that sport or extracurricular activity as determined by the head coach/sponsor and/or Athletic Director.

### **Insurance**

(Athletics)-

Extra-curricular insurance has been provided for all students who participated in athletics in the past; however, the district **WILL NOT** provide this coverage. Parents and guardians are encouraged to seek primary, and supplemental, insurance coverage for the children participating in sporting events and activities.

### **Issued Equipment**

(Athletics)

Each student athlete will be issued workout clothing and sport-specific equipment throughout the year. It is the responsibility of the student athlete to care for such clothing and equipment. Laundry services are provided; therefore student athletes are not permitted to take home issued clothing or equipment. If issued clothing or equipment becomes damaged, lost, or stolen the student athlete will replace the equipment or clothing at replacement cost before any other equipment will be issued.

(Other extracurricular activities)

Each student who is issued equipment, clothing, etc. for his/her extracurricular activity must return all school-issued equipment, clothing, etc. at the end of the season/school year. If the issued equipment, clothing, etc. becomes damaged,

lost, or stolen the student will replace the equipment or clothing at replacement cost.

Any student participating in any UIL and/or extracurricular activity may not be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies if money, equipment, or clothing is owed to the school.

### **Language—Inappropriate**

Inappropriate language will not be tolerated at any time. The coach/sponsor will determine what is inappropriate and consequences will be determined by the coach/sponsor.

### **Lettering**

Student athletes may receive one major award (letter jacket) during his/her high school career.

**Athletics**—In order for a student to be awarded a letter jacket for athletics, the student must letter in more than one sport or letter in the same sport for two years. To letter in a sport, a student must make a substantial contribution to a varsity sport (successfully completing a sport does not in itself ensure a student will receive a varsity letter).

**Academics**—To letter in academics, the student must compete in UIL Academics for two consecutive years and must make a substantial contribution to the event.

**Other Extracurricular Activities**—To letter in other extracurricular activities, the student must remain in the activity for the entire school year for at least two years and must make a substantial contribution to the activity.

The student must be enrolled as a sophomore to be eligible and must start and complete the sport/event to remain eligible.

Each coach/sponsor in his or her assigned sport shall determine which students receive letter awards. Documentation regarding award of letters in athletics shall be maintained in the high school principal's office or the Superintendent's office. A \$10.00 award may be given to student athletes each year who have already received his/her major award (letter jacket).

Procedure:

- 1) All jackets shall be ordered at the same time each year (spring).
- 2) Should a senior athlete transfer their senior year and letter, they may receive a letter jacket if no jacket has been awarded by his/her previous school.
- 3) Letter jackets will be funded by the district.
- 4) The jackets will come with one large "FD" and one "insert." Students are responsible for paying for additional inserts, patches, or monogramming.

### **Meals**

The athletic and/or extracurricular department will offer a meal to each student participant when traveling out-of-town. Meals may not be provided for competition within a thirty-mile radius. Student participants may be requested to bring a sack lunch for such travel.

### **Mid-Season—Entering a Sport**

Student athletes are expected to begin each athletic season when the season begins. Student athletes will only be permitted to join the team after a season begins with the permission of the head coach, principal, or superintendent. The head coach may impose additional requirements before the student athlete can join the team, and the student must be currently enrolled in the athletic/conditioning period.

### **Off-Season**

(Athletics)

The main purpose of this period is to condition the student athlete both mentally and physically to the highest level. Every year the student athlete should set goals that will help him/her surpass the previous year's achievements. The student athlete should be stronger, have a higher level of endurance, improved playing skills and greater knowledge. The better conditioned the student athlete, the less likely the chance of injury; and if injured, the quicker the recovery.

Student athletes should be enrolled in the athletic period/off season conditioning unless extenuating circumstances are approved by the head coach of that sport, athletic director, and/or principal.

### **Physicals**

Physicals will be available each year for student athletes. The physical is at no cost to parents if conducted on the scheduled days. If a student athlete misses the scheduled date set by the directors, the physical will be at the expense of the athlete. Student athletes will not be permitted to participate in any sport without a current physical on file with the athletic department.

### **Practice Policy**

Each student athlete is expected to attend all practices. If extenuating circumstances exist, the head coach/sponsor should be notified immediately. Student athletes are expected to be on time and dressed for practice by time set by the head coach/sponsor. It is the responsibility of the student athlete to contact the head coach/sponsor as soon as possible if there becomes a conflict with the practice schedule.

If a student athlete misses a practice, he/she will be responsible for making up missed conditioning, which will be set by the head coach/sponsor of each sport/event. If a student athlete misses two practices without contacting the coach/sponsor of that sport/event, the student athlete may be dismissed for the remainder of the season. If a student athlete is late for practice on a consistent basis he/she may face suspended playing time. An exception to this policy may be granted when a student is participating in multiple sports/activities during the same season.

### **Quitting Policy**

Quitting a sport or event is considered to be a serious matter since it affects teammates and coaches/sponsors. It can reflect upon the integrity and responsibility of the student participant. Student participants must realize that when he/she quits an event, they are affecting other student participants in a negative way.

Should a student participant decide to quit an event, that individual may be suspended for the next upcoming athletic/event season. The student may also not be allowed to begin another sport/event within the same season if he/she was not already attending practice/competitions for the new sport/event. Example: If a student quits football, that student may not be eligible to play basketball but may return for track & field season. The student participants may not be allowed to begin practice for another sport or event until the first sport or event season is concluded.

A grace period will be offered when a sport begins. The student participant has until the first day after the first regular competition (scrimmages not included) to determine his or her desire to continue in the sport. During this grace period, if a student/athlete quits, there will be no punishment.

The student's decision to quit may not be considered final until the coach/sponsor has conducted a meeting with the student to discuss the causes and consequences of quitting. A parent/guardian may also attend the meeting. Exceptions to this policy may be granted by the athletic director, principal, or superintendent.

### **Senior Student Athletes**

When senior student athletes have completed their spring sports and have fulfilled their academic requirements, they may:

1. be released from school during the athletic period with a signed parental permission form.
2. not be allowed to participate in the off-season workout.

### **Social Media**

Negative, inappropriate, or illegal social media postings WILL NOT be tolerated. Upon verification of such postings, coaches and sponsors will handle all instances in a swift manner in which they see fit. Instances that are also in violation of the Student Code of Conduct will be handled by the administration of Fort Davis I.S.D.

### **Spring Sports**

Student athletes are limited to two spring sports. The student athlete should consider practice and competition conflicts. Student-athletes with good attendance and good grades may request to participate in an additional spring sport. Each request will be considered by the principal and athletic director on an individual basis. The student athlete will be expected to honor any team sport participation (e.g. Track & Field relay team) above individual sport participation (e.g. Tennis singles, or Golf).

### **Summer Conditioning**

(Athletics)

The UIL has now granted school districts the right to condition student athletes during a set period in the summer. This period begins the week following the last day of school and continues for six-weeks. Student athletes may condition Monday through Thursday under the supervision of the coaching staff or qualified personnel. Student athletes are encouraged to attend these conditioning sessions as this is a means to reduce injury in the fall and remain in adequate condition throughout the summer.

### **Team Travel**

Students who participate in school-sponsored events/trips are required to use transportation provided by the school to and from the event. The principal or head coach/sponsor may make an exception if the parent makes a written request that the student be released to the parent or to another adult designated by the parent. The written request should be turned into the head coach no later than the day before a performance or game.

### **Tutorials**

At the time three-week progress reports are released, any student athlete with a grade of 75 or below in any subject may be required to attend mandatory tutorials set forth by the coaching staff.

**Two-a-Days Policy**

(Athletics)

All student athletes participating in fall sports are required to participate in two-a-day workouts. In the event a student athlete must miss any of these workouts, the student athlete must make-up all conditioning for missed workouts (set by his/her coach). Failure to do so may result in suspension from the next scheduled contest. Scrimmages are considered practice.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION IS A PRIVILEGE NOT A RIGHT.**

#### **Unlawful Behavior**

Student athletes who have been arrested for unlawful behavior or placed on probation will be subject to the discipline set forth in the Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Policy.

#### **Fort Davis ISD Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Policy**

Fort Davis ISD does not condone, nor allow, any students use, or consumption of, illegal/illicit drugs, alcohol, or tobacco. Policies FNCD (Legal), FNCF (Legal), and FNF (Legal and Local) detail the district's policy regarding student rights and responsibilities, and interrogations and searches, and any applicable drug testing procedures. Students who violate these policies will receive the approved consequences, up to and including possible suspension from participation.

The complete board policy may be found in Board Policy Online at [www.fdisd.com](http://www.fdisd.com). For a hard copy of these policies, please contact the principal at (432) 426-4444.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT**

Sportsmanship is character displayed through competition. People of character live by the “Six Pillars of Character,” universal values that can be used to define a good person:

#### **Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.**

Interscholastic competition should demonstrate high standards of ethics and sportsmanship and promote the development of good character and other important life skills. Participants should be committed to pursuing victory with honor according to the principles listed above. I understand that, in order to participate in Fort Davis Athletics and Extracurricular Competition, I must act according with the following:

#### **Trustworthiness**

- Trustworthiness – Be worthy of trust in all I do. Display integrity, honesty, reliability, and loyalty.

#### **Respect**

- Respect – Treat all people with respect at all times, and require the same of my teammates. Live and play with class; be a good sport; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; give fallen opponents help, complement extraordinary performance, show sincere respect in pre- and post- game rituals. Treat contest officials with respect; do not complain about or argue with official calls or decisions.

#### **Responsibility**

- Responsibility – Be a student first! Constantly exhibit good character and conduct myself as a positive role model. Remember, participation is a privilege not a right and I am expected to represent my school, community, coaches, and teammates with honor both on and off the field. I should exercise self-control and not display excessive anger or frustration and have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.

#### **Fairness**

- Be Fair – Live up to high standards of fair play; be open minded, always be willing to listen and learn.

#### **Caring**

- Concern for Others – Demonstrate concern for others. Never engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to an opponent or myself. Help promote the well-being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to my coaches.

#### **Citizenship**

- Play by the Rules – Honor the spirit and letter of the rules; avoid temptations to gain a competitive advantage through improper techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

**APPENDIX C**

**Fort Davis Student and Athlete Contract & Pledge**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ do agree as a condition of my being involved in the Fort Davis UIL and/or Extracurricular Program, that I will abide by the rules in the UIL and Extracurricular Handbook and the policies of Fort Davis Independent School District. I further agree that I will not be in possession of, use, or depict the use of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco. I also agree to not engage in unlawful behavior as long as I am a member of the Fort Davis UIL and/or Extracurricular Program. I understand that, as a condition for participation, I may be required to submit to drug screening during the school year. I understand that screening may include the following substances: alcohol, opiates, amphetamines, methamphetamines, THC, heroin, Ecstasy, PCP, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, propoxyphene, cocaine, and synthetic opiates. I further understand and agree that any violations of the above mentioned policy, and/or results of the screening may be provided to District Officials (per board policy FNF (Local)), and that any violations, may result in limits, as noted in the Fort Davis Junior-Senior High School UIL & Extracurricular Handbook, to my participation in these extracurricular activities.

**I understand that this policy is in effect year round including the summer months and I understand the consequences for failing to uphold this pledge.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Student's Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent's Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

**APPENDIX D**

**STUDENT AND PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**I have read, understand, and will abide by the requirements of this UIL & Extracurricular Handbook and Extracurricular Code of Conduct. I understand that I am expected to perform according to these requirements, and there may be severe penalties if I do not.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date