



2026-2027 Grady ISD

Student Extracurricular Policy

I. Introduction

A. To the Parent:

This material is presented to you because your son or daughter has indicated a desire to participate in extracurricular activities and you have expressed your willingness to permit him/her to compete. Your family interest in this phase of our school program is gratifying. We believe that participation in extracurricular activities provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences, which assists students in personal adjustments.

We who are concerned with the educational developments of young men and women through extracurricular activities feel that a properly controlled, well-organized programs meet with the student's needs for self-expression, mental alertness and physical growth. We will maintain a program that is sound in purpose and will further each student's educational maturity.

A student who elects to participate in extracurricular activities is voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline and self-denial. These are the reasons we place such emphasis on good training habits. Failure to comply with the rules/expectations of training and conduct may mean exclusion from the activity. This concept of self-discipline and self-denial is tempered by our responsibility to recognize the rights of the individual within the objectives of the team. We are striving for excellence and do not want our students to compromise with mediocrity.

B. To the Student/Athlete:

Being a member of a Wildcat team is the fulfillment of an early ambition for many students. The attainment of this goal carries with it certain traditions and responsibilities that must be maintained. A great tradition is not built overnight; it takes the hard work of many people over many years. As a member of any extracurricular activities at Grady, you have inherited a wonderful tradition, a tradition you are challenged to uphold.

Our traditions have been made with honor. We desire to win, but only with honor to our students, our schools and our community. Such a tradition is worthy of the best efforts of all concerned. It will not be easy to contribute to such great tradition. When you wear the colors of your school, we assume that you not only understand our traditions, but are also willing to assume the responsibilities that go with them. However, the contributions you make should be a satisfying accomplishment to you and your family.

1. RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOURSELF:

The most important of these responsibilities is to broaden yourself and develop strength of character. You owe it to yourself to get the greatest possible good from your junior high and high school experiences. Your academic studies, your participation in other extracurricular activities as well as in sports will prepare you for your life as an adult.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOUR SCHOOL:

Another responsibility you assume as a squad member is to your school. Grady cannot maintain its position of having an outstanding school unless you do your best in whatever activity you wish to engage. By participating in extracurricular activities to the maximum of your ability, you are contributing to the reputation of your school.

You assume a leadership role when you are on the extracurricular squad. The student body and citizens of the community know you. You are on stage with the spotlight on you. The student body, the community, and other communities judge our school by your conduct and attitudes, both **on and off the field**. Because of this leadership role, you can contribute greatly to school spirit and community pride. Make the Grady community proud of you and your school, by your faithful exemplification of these ideals.

II. EXTRACURRICULAR PHILOSOPHY:

A. Statement of Philosophy:

The Wildcat Programs should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life in today's society. The extracurricular programs shall be conducted in accordance with existing Board of Trustee policies, rules, and regulations. While the Board of Trustee takes great pride in winning; it does not condone "winning at all costs." It discourages any and all pressures that might lead to neglect of good sportsmanship and good mental health. At all times, the extracurricular programs must be conducted in such a way as to justify it as an educational activity.

B. EXTRACURRICULAR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

OUR GOAL- THE STUDENT SHALL LEARN:

1. To work with others: in a democratic society a person must develop self-discipline, respect for authority, and the spirit of hard work and sacrifice. The team and its objectives must be placed higher than personal desires.
2. To be successful: our society is very competitive. We do not always win, but we succeed when we continuously strive to do so. Only by striving to win with earnest dedication, can you learn to accept defeat. Develop a desire to excel.
3. To develop sportsmanship: to accept defeat like a true sportsman, knowing we have done our best. We must learn to treat others as we would have others treat us. We need to develop desirable social traits, including emotional control, honesty, cooperation, and dependability.
4. To improve: Continual improvement is essential to good citizenship. As a student/athlete, you must establish a goal and constantly try to reach that goal. Try to better yourself in the skills involved and those characteristics set forth as being desirable.
5. To enjoy extracurricular activities: it is necessary for students/athletes to enjoy participation, to acknowledge all of the personal rewards to be derived from extracurricular activities and to give sufficiently of themselves in order to preserve and improve the program.
6. To develop desirable personal health habits: to be an active, contributing citizen, it is important to obtain a high degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits, and to develop the desire to maintain this level of physical fitness after formal competition has been completed.

III. EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT:

A. CONDUCT OF STUDENTS/ATHLETES:

A firm and consistent policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold the regulations and standards of the extracurricular program. The community, school administrators, board, coaching staff and sponsors feel strongly that a high standard of conduct and citizenship is essential in maintaining a sound extracurricular program. The welfare of the students is our major consideration and transcends any other consideration.

All students shall abide by a code of ethics, which will earn them the honor and respect that participation and competition in the interscholastic program affords. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the student/athlete, the team, or the school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct, such as, but not limited to theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality or violations of the law, tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the extracurricular program and will not be tolerated.

B. Penalties of Violation:

Due to the serious nature of this rule, the principal, coach involved and the athletic director will meet and determine the penalty according to the degree of the infraction. The penalty may range from extra running, sitting out a game, or the denial of further participation in the program.

B1. Alcohol Use/Illegal Drugs

If an extracurricular student/athlete is caught using (used), providing, sales or possessing any amount of alcohol or illegal drugs on campus or on any extracurricular event/function, the following consequences will apply.

The first offense will be a **30 school day suspension** from all extracurricular activities. Students will still be allowed to practice.

The second offense will be a **177 school day suspension** from all extracurricular activities.

The third offense the student/athlete will be removed from all extracurricular events the remaining of their JH/HS participation at Grady ISD.

Consequences of the student's violation of alcohol/drug use shall be cumulative through the student's enrollment at Grady ISD.

B2. TOBACCO USE/POSSESSION:

If an extracurricular student/athlete is caught using (used), or possessing any sort of tobacco they will be suspended until the completion of the office consequences. Student will not be allowed to participate in any games or contest until the office consequences are served. This also includes electronic cigarettes (Vape-Pens). Students will have to run 1 WILDCAT MILE for each day of I.S.S/AEP suspension.

C. I.S.S./AEP SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL:

Any student placed in In-School-Suspension will be ineligible to participate/practice in extracurricular activities until all days are served. Athletes will also be required to run 1 WILDCAT MILE for each day the student is suspended. Running **MUST** be completed prior to participating in the extracurricular activity.

IV. BASIC ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT POLICIES:

A. DROPPING OUT OR TRANSFERRING SPORTS:

Quitting is an intolerable habit to acquire. Any athlete may lose the privilege of participating in athletics. All athletes will have 5 days or to the first scrimmage/contest to decide if they want to participate in that particular sport, without penalty.

FIRST INSTANCE: The athlete is immediately ineligible for any athletic-related extracurricular activity until that athlete has completed 25 miles of running with a coach as a witness. The athlete will not start another sport until the sport that was quit is finished. He or she will have 10 days to complete the running.

SECOND INSTANCE: The athlete is immediately ineligible for any other athletic- related extracurricular activity until that athlete has completed 50 miles of running with a coach as a witness. The athlete will not start another sport until the sport that he/she has quit finishes. He/she will have 20 days to complete the running.

THIRD INSTANCE: The athlete loses the privilege of participation in athletics during their remainder of junior high or high school career. On occasion, however, an athlete may find it necessary to drop a sport for a good reason. If this is the case, the following procedure must be followed:

1. Consult with your immediate coach and the athletic director.
2. Check in all equipment issued to you.

B. Equipment

School equipment checked out by the student-athlete is his/her responsibility. He/she is expected to keep it clean and in good condition.

Loss of any equipment is the athlete's financial obligation. Participation may be suspended until these obligations are met.

*Workout cloths/uniforms must remain at school. Students/athletes will not be allowed to take workout clothes or game uniforms home unless the athletic director and head coach gives approval.

C. Missing School/Practice

An athlete should always consult his/her coach before missing practice.

1. A player is responsible for knowing the start time and location of all meetings, practices, and games. Check with coaches daily or weekly as necessary. A prior accepted excuse is one given to the head coach before the tardiness or absence occurs. The parent can notify the coach in person/by phone/email. A doctor/dentist's note is acceptable. The coach of that sport will make a determination of an acceptable excuse.
2. Excused absences will involve only conditioning, nothing punitive. In case of illness, required conditioning will not occur until student is fully recovered. The head coach and the athletic director will look at excessive excused absences and a parent-coach conference will be called.
3. The coach of each sport will deal with unexcused absences. Consequences may vary, from extra work, game suspension, suspension from the program, depending on the number of absences. For student's athletes that continue missing school with absences/unexcused absences, a committee of 3 school district personnel (consisting of the principal, athletic director, and head coach of the sport) will determine whether or not the student shall continue participation in the sport based on unacceptable attendance.

Unfortunately, there will be extenuating circumstances (funerals, sickness, injuries ...etc.) that arrive during the season. These types of situations will be dealt with by the principal, athletic director, and the head coach/sponsor on a case by case situation.

D. Travel

All athletes **must travel** to and from out-of-town athletic contests in transportation provided by the athletic department, unless the parent has made arrangements **24 hours prior** to the departure of the activity/contest (that has been approved by the principal, athletic director or head coach) for exceptional / extenuating situations **(not for convenience situations)**. Students **MUST** turn in a **Return Transportation Slip** 24 hours Prior to the contest.

1. Athletes will remain with their squads and under the supervision of the coach when attending away contests.
2. Athletes that miss the bus **will not** be allowed to participate in the contest unless there are extenuating circumstances and approved by the Athletic Director or Principal.
3. All regular school bus rules will be followed.
4. Dress appropriately and in good taste.
5. School dress code **DOES APPLY** and will be enforced.

E. Conflicts in Extracurricular Activities

An individual student who attempts to participate in several extracurricular activities will, undoubtedly, be in a position of a conflict of obligations. The athletic department recognizes that each student should have the opportunity for a broad range of experiences in the area of extracurricular activities and to this end, will attempt to schedule events in a manner to minimize the conflicts. When a conflict arises, the sponsors/coaches will work out a solution so the student does not feel caught in the middle. If a solution cannot be found, the principal and athletic director will make the decision based on the following;

1. The relative importance of each event (district/ non-district).
2. The importance of each event to the student.
3. The relative contribution other students can make.
4. The length each event has been scheduled.
5. Discussions with the parent(s).

F. Release from Class:

It is the responsibility of a student/athlete to see their teacher(s) the day before they will miss class do to an athletic contest. All make-up work should be made at the convenience of the teacher.

G. Grooming and Dress Policy

A member of the extracurricular team will be well groomed. "He shows up best who shows off least." Appearance (grooming/dress) and expression/action (behavior) always influence people's opinions of students/athletes, the team, and the school. Once you have volunteered to be a member of a squad; you have made a choice to up-hold certain standards expected of athletes in this community.

*Grady ISD school dress code will be followed for all extracurricular activities. Students that are not in compliance, **WILL NOT** be allowed to travel or participate in any contest until they are in compliance.

H. Drug Testing Policy:

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, the student shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be subjected 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.

I. Letter Jacket Policy:

Students that participate for two or more years in any of the following activities or combination of activities will be eligible for a letter jacket. Cross Country, Football, Cheerleading, Mascot, Basketball, Track, Tennis, Golf, UIL Academic, FFA Contest/Judging Teams, Leadership.

J. Extracurricular Absences:

Number of Days Allowed for Extra-Curricular Absences;

High School (Grades 9-12)	25
Junior High (Grades 6-8)	20
Elementary (Grades K-5)	15

For a day to be considered an extra-curricular absence there must be a full time school employee with the students or a board approved adjunct facilitator.

All extra-curricular absences must be pre-approved by the principal.

The principal's office will keep a running total of extra-curricular absences. Staff, students and parents will be notified when the students reaches each multiple of 5 in extra-curricular absences that count toward the maximum allowed.

Days that are exempt from the extra-curricular absence policy: a class field trip, CNA practicum, any activity or competition beyond the district level, a stock show absence where the student's animal has made the sale, or any other day that administration approves.

Athletic Policy on Remote Learners for 2026-2027

Remote learners ***WILL NOT*** be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities. This policy was adopted by the Grady ISD Board on July 20th of 2020. Students must be attending Grady ISD in person to be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities for the 2026-2027 school year.

***** PLEASE RETURN ONLY THE EXTRACURRICULAR CONTRACT**

2026-2027

Grady Student Extracurricular Contract

Grady Independent School District

3011 Hwy 176

Lenorah, Texas 79749

(432) 459-2444

Fax: (432) 459-2729

I, _____ do agree as a condition of my being involved in extracurricular activities in the Grady ISD, that I will abide by the rules stated in the Student Extracurricular Handbook. I also understand that if found guilty of a violation of the Code, I shall receive the punishment that goes with the offense.

Student's Signature: _____. **Date:** _____

Parent's Signature: _____. **Date:** _____