

Vermillion High School



Activities & Athletic Handbook

1001 East Main Street ~ Vermillion, South Dakota 57069 ~ (605) 677-7035

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Co-curricular Activities/Athletics

- Students who are involved in any of the following activities or athletic teams including all club sports are considered to be governed by the rules and regulations that have been established in the **ACTIVITIES/ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**. For convenience, the activity or athletic teams are listed by the approximate season in which they occur.

- **FALL SEASON:**

Fall Pep Band
Flag Corps
Boy's Golf
Girl's Tennis
Softball (club)

All State Chorus
Oral Interp
Football
Competition Marching Band

All State Orchestra
Boy's/Girl's Cross Country
Volleyball
Soccer

- **WINTER SEASON:**

Show Choir
One-Act Plays
Girls Basketball
Bowling (club)

Winter Pep Band
Boys Basketball
Wrestling

Jazz Band (Spring Season also)
Gymnastics
Small Group Contest

- **SPRING SEASON:**

All State Band
Biennial Music Trip
Girl's Golf
Baseball (club)

Drama/Musical
Boy's Tennis
Boy's/Girl's Track

Jazz Band (Winter Season also)
Large Group Contest
All State Jazz Band

- **SUMMER SEASON:**

All State Honors Choir

SPECIAL NOTE: Since some activities can be rearranged, extended, or left out periodically, each of the above listed activities or athletic teams will be considered active from the first day of practice until the completion of the final performance.

- **YEAR-LONG ACTIVITIES:**

Class Officers
Clubs/Organization
Debate

National Honor Society
Student Council
Swimming (club)

SPECIAL NOTE: Year-long activities will be considered active from the first day of school (or practice) until the conclusion of the school year (or final performance).

VHS ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

ATTENDANCE:

In order to participate in any extra-curricular or co-curricular activity/athletic contest or performance, **"you must be in attendance at high school by 12:00 noon"**. The administration reserves the right to grant exemptions to this policy due to special or unusual circumstances. The student requesting an exemption to this policy must make the request prior to the required attendance time.

ELIGIBILITY:

In order to participate in Vermillion High School activities/athletics a student must:

1. Be currently enrolled full time. Full time status is considered to be enrolled and attending five (5) courses for credit, and
2. Pass a minimum of four (4) courses, and have a total semester GPA of 1.5 from the previous semester. State minimum GPA is 1.0 on a 4.0 scale.

LOCAL ELIGIBILITY:

Vermillion High School students who are academically ineligible by local standards, who has achieved the local eligibility GPA standard during the first nine-week period of the semester of ineligibility, may on their own initiative meet with the School Board requesting reinstatement for probationary eligibility for the second nine-week period of the semester of ineligibility. Reinstatement requests will be reviewed individually, and a decision rendered based on the circumstances of the situation.

- A. In order to participate in Vermillion 7th and 8th grade activities/athletics, a student must:
 1. Have a GPA of 1.5 from the previous nine weeks to be eligible for the following nine weeks. The 1.5 must be an average of all semester length courses the student is taking.
 2. A student with less than a 1.5 average for a nine week period has ONE GRACE PERIOD, ten (10) school days per year, in which to bring up and maintain the 1.5 GPA. If the student is successful, he/she will be allowed to continue public participation in contests. Grades will be checked every two weeks. If the student has not raised the grade to 1.5 by the end of the grace period, the student will become ineligible for the remainder of the nine weeks. A student who is ineligible is still allowed to participate in practices.
 3. Students considered to be participating on a high school team will fall under high school eligibility requirements. Should a middle school student considered to be on the high school team or squad become ineligible, said student will be ineligible to participate on a middle school team, activity or sport should it still be in progress.

SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY:

Item: ACAA

It is the Vermillion School District's policy that sexual harassment is illegal, unacceptable and shall not be tolerated; no employee or student of the school district may sexually harass another. Any employee or student will be subject to disciplinary action including possible suspension, expulsion, or termination for violation of this policy.

DEFINITION:

Any unwelcome sexual advances, solicitation or sexual activity by promise of rewards, coercion of sexual activity by threat of punishment, verbal sexist remarks, or physical assaults constitute sexual harassment. This conduct has the effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's academic work performance or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive employment or educational environment regardless of intent.

RESPONSIBILITY:

School district officers, employees and students are responsible for maintaining a working and learning environment free from sexual harassment. Workshops and activities will be provided by the school district to explain the policy and laws. Careful scrutiny will be undertaken of all allegations of sexual harassment. False allegations that are malicious or ill-founded may constitute libel or slander. Copies of the policy will be available at all administrative offices.

COMPLAINTS:

Any employee who believes that he or she has been a subject of sexual harassment by a district employee or officer should report this incident immediately to his or her immediate supervisor. If the immediate supervisor is involved in the activity, the violation should be reported to the supervisor's immediate supervisor. Students should report such incidents to the guidance counselor and/or the responsible administrator. All reported incidents will be thoroughly investigated and subject of disciplinary action. Confidentiality consistent with due process will be maintained.

If an employee or student files a written complaint because of dissatisfaction with the handling of the complaint, he or she may utilize any applicable grievance procedure.

Adopted
Amended 4/25/1994
Reviewed
Amended 12/11/2006
Reviewed 12/10/2012

SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

Item: IGDB

Participation of Alternative Instruction Students in High School Extracurricular Activities:

The Board maintains membership in the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA). In the conduct of interscholastic athletic programs, the rules, regulations, and limitations outlined by that association will be followed.

Eligibility requirements for alternative instruction students to participate in high school athletic and other extra-curricular programs will be set by the school administration with the approval of the Board and will conform to the regulations of the SDHSAA, if applicable. They will include the requirements that a student have the written permission of his/her parent or guardian to participate, each student abide by training rules, physical examinations, attendance, insurance, discipline or any other rule and regulation applied to regular participants. Students who fail to follow all rules and regulations may be suspended from that activity.

All students participating in interscholastic athletics must purchase insurance available through the school, or the parent or guardian must sign a waiver to the effect that such coverage is not necessary.

Students who participate in alternative instruction, i.e. who are home schooled, shall have the opportunity to participate in district co-curricular and interscholastic activities if they meet the requirements of the state law, the South Dakota High School Activities Association, and district policy, including regulations specified in the student/parent handbooks.

1. Any accredited school student who leaves an accredited program during the course of the school year for any reason and enters an alternative instruction program is ineligible for participation in interscholastic and co-curricular activities for one calendar year beginning on the date in which the student enters the alternative program.
2. For an alternative education student to be eligible to participate in interscholastic and/or co-curricular activities, he/she must:
 - a. Have a completed, board-approved alternative instruction application on file with the Vermillion School District Central Office.
 - b. Enroll, during the entire year in which the student participates in the extra-curricular/co-curricular activity, in two courses of study (per semester), one of which must include a 'core' course. (Core courses are those within the areas of Science, Math, English, and Social Studies as defined by the course catalogue). Alternative instructed students must fulfill all other core course requirements in their alternative instructed program.
 - c. Alternative Instruction students must be enrolled in the gradual progression of courses based on their previous enrollment. The students must meet jointly with the guidance counselor and or principal to prepare and finalize a class schedule.
 - d. Students must remain in two courses for the entire year, even if their preferred activity is held entirely within the fall or spring semester. Failure to remain in courses for the entire year shall eliminate their future eligibility for co-curricular/interscholastic activities.
 - e. The student must maintain 1.5 grade point average in all classes enrolled in, not to exceed the number required of regularly enrolled students. The student must meet all attendance requirements as outlined in the Vermillion School District board policy.

SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

ACTIVITIES: RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Item: IGDK

I. Rules and Regulations

- A. The following rules and regulations have been established for the activities programs of the Vermillion School District.
 - (1) NO DRINKING OR POSSESSION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
 - (2) NO SMOKING, USE, OR POSSESSION OF TOBACCO SUBSTANCES
 - (3) NO USE, INGESTION, OR POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL DRUGS AND/OR DRUG PARAPHERNALIA
 - (4) NO INHALING, HUFFING, OR INGESTING ANY SUBSTANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF INTOXICATION
 - (5) NO ACTIVITY WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE A FELONY OR MISDEMEANOR (OTHER THAN MINOR TRAFFIC OFFENSES)
- B. Coaches/directors may require additional rules concerning curfew, practice, and other items appropriate to the particular activity.
- C. Activities rules and regulations shall be in effect year round, including summer time. All offenses will be CUMULATIVE during the student's high school career. Students are considered to be under the rules and regulations of this policy starting the first day of summer break after their 6th grade year.
- D. To restore eligibility, the student must continue to participate and complete the season in which the suspended activities take place. Uncompleted suspensions will carry over to the next sport/activity in which the student participates and completes.

II. Procedures for Informing Students of Activities Rules and Regulations

- A. The specific activity rules violations and the penalty for each will be read by the activity coach/director to his/her participants before the first practice session of each new activity.
- B. The student must sign the NOTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION form which is attached to the Activities/Athletic handbook.
- C. The signed NOTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION must be turned in to the athletic director prior to a student's participation in any interschool activity.
- D. Any middle school student participating in activities will be held accountable to the policies in the Vermillion High School Athletic/Activity Handbook.

III. Methods of Detection of Violation of Activities Rules and Regulations

- A. Any school district employee who has reason to believe a student has violated one of the activity rules and regulations is encouraged to report the alleged violation to either the principal, Dean of Students, or coach/athletic/activity director. Members of the community are requested to report students suspected of violating the activities rules and regulations. All information reported shall remain confidential until such time as it has been determined a policy has been violated.
- B. As stated by SDCL 26-11-5.1, "a law enforcement agency may provide notice of an incident within its jurisdiction to public or nonpublic school officials and to the parent or

2.

Activity	Number of Events	Number of Events Missed	
		1 st Offense	2 nd Offense
Football	9	2	4
Basketball	20	4	8
Tennis	12	3	6
Boy's Golf	11	3	6
Girl's Golf	11	3	6
Cross Country	8	2	4
Wrestling	14	3	6
Gymnastics	10	2	4
Volleyball	18	3	6
Track	11	3	6
Dance Team	8	2	4
Soccer	12	3	6
Bowling (club)	12	3	6
Baseball (club)	21	4	8
Softball (club)	12	3	6
Swimming (club)	10	2	4
Band	12	3	6
Vocal Competition	8	2	4
Oral Interp	8	2	4
Debate	9	2	4
Drama	2	1	2
One Act Play	2	1	2
Student Congress	3	1	2
National Honor Society		Dismissed from organization	

3. If the students' second alcohol violation occurs within 12 months of their first alcohol violation, then in addition to suspended event activity the student will successfully complete a formal chemical dependency assessment conducted by a certified chemical dependency counselor. This assessment will be at the student's expense. The assessment must be completed before the student can participate in any activities.
4. A third and subsequent offense violations will result in the student being barred from participating in any school activity for twelve (12) months from the date of the third or subsequent violation.
5. First Offense (drug related):
 - a) Penalty: SDCL 13-32-9 requires that anyone who uses, possesses, or distributes controlled substances or marijuana will be suspended from all school extra-curricular activities for one calendar year from the date of adjudication, conviction, diversion, or suspended imposition of sentence.

SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION—ENFORCING SCHOOL POLICIES:

Item: JAB

Administrators have authority to suspend students or take proper action to suspend students in connection with a student's attendance at school, any school function, or any school activity home or away. Administrators, staff members, or designated representatives have the authority to take disciplinary action with students. Students are charged with the responsibility of proper conduct at all times. Proper conduct will be determined by the administration or their delegated appointees subject to appeal.

1. Contests or events that Vermillion students participate in or are authorized to attend are under the jurisdiction of Vermillion Public Schools. Students have the responsibility of proper conduct at all of these contests, both at home and away from home. Administrators, staff members, or designated representatives have the responsibility to enforce policies as they apply to students. Suspension or expulsion of students when applied to contests or events shall be within the legal time limits of accepted school policy. Administrators have the authority within the framework of board policy to establish rules and regulations as they apply to school contests or events. Students who bring discredit to their school, community, or themselves may be considered for disciplinary action. All actions are subject to review of the school board via proper channels.
2. The parking lot and all school property are considered part of the school jurisdiction. Administrators, staff members, or their delegated representatives including the school resource officer, have the authority and responsibility to regulate the parking lot and all school property. Suspension of students when applied to enforcement of responsibilities shall be within the legal time limits of the accepted school policy. The following items will be emphasized:
 - a. All rules that apply to students in the building also apply to students in the parking lot and all other school property.
 - b. There will be no possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, and/or illegal drugs or controlled substances on school premises or at school events home or away.
 - c. Defacing or destruction of school property will be sufficient cause for disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion.
 - d. The police department may be requested by the administration to patrol school premises, provide law enforcement, and/or assist school officials with rule enforcement, crowd control, and/or removal of individuals from premises.
 - e. Loiterers will not be allowed on school property.
 - f. Individuals representing any organization or group must be granted approval by the administration in order to be present on school premises.
3. Administrators, faculty, and staff are authorized to supervise school functions. Rules and regulations, as stated in the school handbooks, govern the students at school and at school functions home or away. Administrators may grant exceptions to school rules and regulations upon special requests. Students attending school functions may be suspended, expelled, or face disciplinary action for the violation of school rules and regulations.

Adopted 8/1974
Amended 3/11/1991
Reviewed
Amended 11/13/2006
Amended 1/9/2017

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

It is the policy of Vermillion School District #13-1 that unfair or discriminatory practice as defined by SDCL 20-13-1(16) on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, ancestry, disability, or natural origin is prohibited.

Complaints regarding defined unfair or discriminatory practices of SDCL ch. 20-13 are within the jurisdiction of the State Human Rights Commission and state court system (procedures contained in SDCL ch. 20-13 and ARSD 20:03 must be utilized for processing them), or federal agency and federal court system.

It is the further policy of Vermillion School District #13-1 to provide the protections of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, 29 U.S.C. 621-634, and also to prohibit discriminatory practice on the basis of sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

It is also the further policy of Vermillion School District #13-1 to administer its contracts and agreements in accordance with principles set forth above as well as any specific provisions contained in any of said contracts and agreements relating thereto and South Dakota Constitution Article VIII, Section 1.

It is the further policy of Vermillion School District #13-1 to prohibit threats, intimidation, physical harm, harassment or bullying for any reason.

The following notice will be published annually in the official newspaper for Vermillion School District #13-1:

Adopted 9/28/1992
Amended
Reviewed
Amended 6/22/2009
Amended 6/27/2011
Amended 1/9/2017

SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

HAZING:

Item: JFCF

It is the policy of the school district that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and will be prohibited at all times. Hazing is defined as:

Doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

No administrator, faculty member, or other employee of the school district will encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate hazing activities. No student, including leaders of student organizations, will plan, encourage, or engage in any hazing.

Administrators, faculty members, and all other employees of the school district will be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances of events, which might include hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, involved students will be informed by the discovering school employee of the prohibition contained in this policy and will be required to end all hazing activities immediately. All hazing incidents will be reported immediately to the superintendent/CEO.

Administrators, faculty members, students, and all other employees who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, and may be liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with state law.

The contents of this policy will be distributed in writing to all students and school district employees following its official adoption by the Board of Education. In addition, this policy will be incorporated into building, employee staff meetings or in-service programs.

LEGAL REFS: SDCL 13-8-39, 13-32-1, 13-32-2, 13-32-4, 13-32-5
South Dakota Executive Order 81-08
Federal Title IX (1972 Education Amendments)

Adopted 1/8/2007

ANTI-BULLYING FORMAL COMPLAINT FORM

Name of complainant: _____

Date of complaint: _____

Name of alleged bully: _____

Date and place of incident or incidents: _____

Description of misconduct: _____

Name of witnesses (if any): _____

Evidence of bullying, i.e., letters, photos, etc. (attach evidence if possible):

Any other information: _____

I agree that all of the information on this form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

BULLYING INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

Students who feel that they have been bullied should:

- Communicate to the perpetrator that the individual expects the behavior to stop, if the individual is comfortable doing so. If the individual wants assistance communicating with the perpetrator, the individual should ask a teacher, counselor, bus driver, dean of students or principal to help.
- If the bullying does not stop, or the individual does not feel comfortable confronting the perpetrator, the individual should:
 - tell a teacher, counselor, bus driver or principal; and
 - write down exactly what happened, keep a copy and give another copy to the teacher, counselor or principal including:
 - o what, when and where it happened;
 - o who was involved;
 - o exactly what was said or what the perpetrator did;
 - o witnesses to the bullying;
 - o what the student said or did, either at the time or later;
 - o how the student felt; and
 - o how the perpetrator responded.
 - teachers, counselors, bus drivers or dean of students receiving a report, or who witness bullying, must report the incident to the building principal by the end of the school day in which the event occurred, but in no case later than the morning of the next school day.

FORMAL COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

An individual who believes that he/she has been bullied will notify the principal or dean of students in his/her building who is the designated investigator. The alternate investigator is the school counselor assigned to a student's attendance center. The investigator may request that the individual complete the Bullying Formal Complaint form and turn over evidence of the incident, including, but not limited to, letters, tapes, or pictures. Information received during the investigation is kept confidential to the extent possible.

The principal, or dean of students or the alternate investigator, with permission from the principal, has the authority to initiate an investigation in the absence of a written complaint.

INVESTIGATION PROCEDURE

The investigator will reasonably and promptly commence the investigation upon receipt of the complaint. The length of the investigation is governed by the facts and complexity of each individual case but should be completed within 30 days of the complaint. The superintendent may approve an extension in special circumstances. The investigator will interview the complainant and the alleged perpetrator. The alleged perpetrator may file a written statement in response to the complaint. The investigator may also interview witnesses as deemed appropriate.

Upon completion of the investigation, the investigator will make written findings and conclusions as to each allegation of bullying and produce written findings and conclusions. An alternate investigator will provide a copy of the written findings of the investigation to the principal.

RESOLUTION OF THE COMPLAINT

Following the completion of his/her own investigation or upon receipt of dean of student's or an alternate investigator's report, the principal may investigate further, if deemed necessary, and make a determination of any appropriate additional steps which may include discipline.

The principal will file a written report documenting any disciplinary action taken or any other action taken in response to the complaint. The remedial actions taken by the principal, including disciplinary

SDHSAA RULES

In-and Out-of-Season Regulations

ARE STUDENTS ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN?							
FROM	CLINICS	CAMPS	NON-SDHSAA LEAGUES, GAMES or TOURNEYS	PRACTICE	ALL-STAR EVENTS	CLUB TEAMS	PRIVATE LESSONS
August 1 to Sport Season Begins	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
Sport Season Begins to Sport Season Ends	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES
Sport Season Ends to Midnight, May 27 th	YES	YES	YES	YES	SENIORS ONLY	YES	YES
May 27 th through July 31 st	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
ARE COACHES ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN?							
FROM	CLINICS	CAMPS	NON-SDHSAA LEAGUES, GAMES or TOURNEYS	PRACTICE	ALL-STAR EVENTS	CLUB TEAMS	PRIVATE LESSONS
August 1 to Sport Season Begins	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Sport Season Begins to Sport Season Ends	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES
Sport Season Ends to Midnight, May 27 th	YES	NO	NO	NO	SDHSCA ONLY	LIMITED	NO
May 27 th through July 31 st	YES	LIMITED	LIMITED	YES	YES	YES	YES

Yes= unlimited Participation Allowed

Limited= Limited By Rule Definition As Covered In Next Section

No= No Participation Allowed

NOTE: No school sponsored or affiliated Activity may take place during the days of July 1 through July 7 annually. This time period shall be known as the summer moratorium.

SDHSAA IN- & OUT-OF-SEASON CHANGES FOR 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR:

1. **AMENDED LANGUAGE** – March 2016. The SDHSAA Board of Directors amended this section in March of 2016 to allow reduced limitations on coach/athlete contact during the summer months. Ultimately, coaches are only bound to the four-contact rule as a limitation in the summer time period. All other contacts may now be unlimited in nature. Additionally, two components were added to the handbook (#2 and #3)
2. **FOOTBALL-SPECIFIC:** During the summer months, schools may only organize or operate activity for the sport of football that includes a maximum of ten days of events that shall have athletes wearing any protective gear beyond a helmet. Of those ten days, no more than five may be consecutive.
3. **SUMMER CONTACTS** – First Date: Per SDHSAA Board of Directors action, the summer contact period shall begin at 12:01 AM of the day following the State Track Meet and ends on July 31 annually. This rule change returns policy to match its previous time-frame.
4. **UNIFORMS:** Uniforms may now be allowed to be checked out to coaches, parents or other individuals throughout the school year according to local district policy without penalty.
5. **ALL-STAR GAMES:** Coaches are now allowed to participate as a part of an All-Star Game during the school-year time period provided that the All-Star Game in question is the specific, designated, single

Education. Upon such a determination in any juvenile court proceeding the Unified Judicial System shall give notice of that determination to the South Dakota High School Activities Association and the chief administrator of the school in which the person is participating in any extracurricular activity. The Unified Judicial System shall give notice to the chief administrators of secondary schools accredited by the Department of Education for any such determination in a court proceeding for any person eighteen to twenty-one years of age without regard to current status in school or involvement in extracurricular activities. The notice shall include name, date of birth, city of residence, and offense. The chief administrator shall give notice to the South Dakota High School Activities Association if any such person is participating in extracurricular activities.

Upon placement of the person in an informal adjustment or court-approved diversion program, the state's attorney who placed the person in that program shall give notice of that placement to the South Dakota High School Activities Association and chief administrator of the school in which the person is participating in any extracurricular activity.

As used in this section, the term, extracurricular activity, means any activity sanctioned by the South Dakota High School Activities Association. Students are ineligible to participate in activity events, competitions, and performances, but a local school district may allow a student to participate in practices.

SDCL 13-32-9.1. No local school board may impose a lesser consequence than those established in § 13-32-9, but a local school district may adopt a policy, by local school board action, with more strict consequences to meet the needs of the district.

SDCL 13-32-9.2. If a suspension is reduced pursuant to § 13-32-9, a suspension for a first offense shall make the student ineligible for a minimum of two South Dakota High School Activities Association sanctioned events upon completion of the reduced suspension period. If a suspension is reduced pursuant to § 13-32-9, a suspension for a second offense shall make the student ineligible for a minimum of six South Dakota High School Activities Association sanctioned events upon completion of the reduced suspension period. To count toward the minimum number of events the student must participate in the entire activity season and may not drop out or quit the activity to avoid suspension and the failure of a student to complete the entire activity season shall result in the student being ineligible for one year from the date of adjudication, conviction, the subject of an informal adjustment or court approved diversion program, or the subject of a suspended imposition of sentence or suspended adjudication of delinquency. A suspension that is not completed by the student

NOTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION:

I have read and understand the rules and regulations set forth by the Vermillion Public School District, as stated in the Activities/Athletics Handbook.

Print Name:

Student's Signature:

Date:
