

**FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
UNIFORM CO-CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT**

Mission Statement

The Fresno Unified School District (“Fresno Unified”) promotes the physical, mental, moral, and social well-being of students. Fresno Unified’s co-curricular and extracurricular programs are an integral part of the total educational process. Co-curricular and extracurricular activities provide opportunities for students to develop and utilize their talents fully in organized cooperation and competition with students of similar ability. The ultimate mission of Fresno Unified’s Goal 2 Department is to ensure and enhance the quality of life for youth by providing cooperative and competitive activities that will produce young men and women able to enter the community and become constructive, contributing members of society.

Core Values

- We TEACH and COACH life skills
- We push and inspire students to COMPETE and set ambitious goals
- We cultivate PRIDE and TRADITION in our communities
- We provide SAFE and CARING environments
- We keep kids ENGAGED in school
- We MODEL the qualities we expect from our young people

Core Vision

We equip students with skills needed to compete and set ambitious goals in sports, activities, and life. This is achieved by creating safe, caring, and inspirational environments that foster pride and tradition in our communities.

Citizenship and Academic Eligibility

All students who represent their schools in extracurricular and co-curricular activities shall maintain satisfactory citizenship records and shall conform to Fresno Unified’s credit and grade requirements. Any student who does not maintain a satisfactory citizenship and academic record shall not be allowed to represent their fellow students, nor the school, for a period of time recommended by these regulations, but in no case, except when approved by the Governing Board, shall the time exceed 12 calendar months.

To be eligible to participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities, students in grades 7-12 must demonstrate satisfactory educational progress in the previous grading period, including, but not limited to:

1. Receive and maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average at the end of each grading period. Students who receive lower than a 2.0 grade point average for a given grading period will be placed on academic probation. Students who receive below a 2.0 grade point average

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for two consecutive grading periods will be unable to participate in performances and/or competitions but may continue to attend practices and/or rehearsals until they receive a 2.0 grade point average or higher during a subsequent grading period.

2. Maintenance of minimum progress toward meeting high school graduation requirements while enrolled and passing in at least 20 credits of work.

The Superintendent or designee may grant ineligible students a probationary period not to exceed one semester. Students granted probationary eligibility must meet the required standards by the end of the probationary period in order to remain eligible for participation.

The Superintendent or designee may revoke a student's eligibility for participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities when the student's poor citizenship is serious enough to warrant loss of this privilege.

Fees and Charges

The California Constitution mandates that public education be provided to students free of charge, unless a charge is specifically authorized by law for a particular program or activity. As a result, Fresno Unified may not require students to pay any fees, deposits, or other charges for his or her participation in an educational activity which constitutes an integral fundamental part of the school's co-curricular or extracurricular program, except where a fee is specifically authorized by law.

This prohibition against student fees shall not restrict Fresno Unified schools from soliciting for voluntary donations, participating in fundraising activities, and providing prizes or other recognition for participants in such activities and events. However, schools shall not offer or award to a student any privileges related to educational activities in exchange for voluntary donations or participation in fundraising activities by or on behalf of the student and shall not remove, or threaten to remove, from a student any privileges related to educational activities, or otherwise discriminate against the student, due to a lack of voluntary donations or participation in fundraising activities by or on behalf of the student. Whenever students or parents/guardians participate in such events or activities, the Superintendent or designee shall emphasize that participation in the event or activity is voluntary.

In particular, the law prohibits a school from requiring students to place a security deposit for a uniform or other equipment, and prohibits a school from charging a student for a uniform. A school must provide a free uniform to any student who is a member of a given team. While schools may give students the option of purchasing their own uniform, they cannot require students to purchase a uniform in order to participate in a sport.

Tobacco, Alcohol, and Other Drugs

Student possession, use, distribution, or sale of tobacco products, alcohol, or unlawful drugs, including drug paraphernalia or any substance purported to be an unlawful drug, on or near any Fresno Unified property (including parking lots) or while participating in Fresno Unified-

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sponsored activities, is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action. If possession, use, distribution, or sale occurs during, while going to, or coming from school or a school-sponsored activity, disciplinary action will likely include removal from the co-curricular or extracurricular program and additional disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from Fresno Unified. Parents will be notified of all substance-related violations and disciplinary action. If appropriate, a student may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

For purposes of this code of conduct, the prohibition on “tobacco products” extends to inhalant delivery systems, including electronic cigarettes, electronic hookahs, and other vapor-emitting devices, with or without nicotine content, that mimic the use of tobacco products.

Steroids and Performance-Enhancing Drugs

Students participating in co-curricular and extracurricular activities are prohibited from using anabolic steroids or any other performance-enhancing drugs. Teachers, advisors, and coaches shall inform students about this prohibition and the dangers of using such drugs.

All students and their parents/guardians shall sign a written agreement that the student will not use androgenic/anabolic steroids without the written prescription of a fully-licensed physician to treat a medical condition.

Social Media Policy

Fresno Unified and its co-curricular and extracurricular programs recognize and support students’ rights to freedom of speech, expression, and association, including the use of social networks. In this context, however, each student must remember that they represent Fresno Unified, their school, and their team, and that participation in Fresno Unified’s co-curricular and extracurricular programs is a privilege. Fresno Unified and the community expects students to portray themselves, their team, and Fresno Unified in a positive manner at all times.

Online social networks are not places where you can say and do anything you want without repercussions. The information you post on a social networking site is considered public information. Protect yourself by maintaining a self-image of which you can be proud of for years to come.

The following are social networking guidelines which apply to the usage of social media applications including, but not limited to, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, Tumblr, and Facebook.

Social Media Guidelines:

1. Students are high-profile representatives of Fresno Unified, their school, and their team, and their behavior may be subject to scrutiny by classmates, the community, and the media. Notably, the media and the community may be more likely to observe the actions of students than other students on campus. Accordingly, students must portray themselves in a positive manner at all times, including when engaging in social media and other online

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- environments. Students are personally responsible for content published via their own social media accounts.
2. Although many students believe that content published on social networking websites is primarily available to a select group of family and friends, such content may be accessible by the general public unless specific privacy and security features are used. In addition, photos, videos, posts, and comments that are uploaded to a social networking website become the property of the website. As a result, even if you delete content from your social media profile, the item may remain on the website server and out of your control. In other words, nothing is fully private.
 3. Be aware of the public and widespread nature of social media, and take that into account before posting or leaving comments on social networking websites that could be considered questionable. Content that you publish online may be publicly available forever.
 4. Before posting personal photos or videos, consider whether those items accurately reflect the same standards of respect and integrity that you would exhibit in real life. Remember that potential college admissions offices, as well as current and future employers, often view social media profiles when evaluating candidates. Be mindful of how you want others to perceive you before you give them a chance to misinterpret you through your social media actions.
 5. Do not upload any incriminating content which includes, but is not limited to, content that is racist, sexist, xenophobic, homophobic, vulgar, indecent, hateful, profane, or lewd. Do not post incriminating photos or statements depicting violence, hazing, sexual harassment, inappropriate gestures, vandalism, stalking, or other illegal activity. Do not upload any content promoting or advocating underage drinking, smoking, selling, possessing, or using drugs, alcohol, or other illegal substances. Do not post derogatory or defamatory language about anyone including, but not limited to, teammates, coaches, officials, or opponents.
 6. Do not affiliate yourself with topics that potentially may be offensive, and refrain from reposting or otherwise advocating someone else's offensive content.
 7. Do not post photos or videos of other students, coaches, teachers, or advisors without their permission.
 8. Teachers, advisors, and coaching staff may monitor your social media posts.
 9. All incidents of "cyberbullying" are taken seriously. Cyberbullying includes the electronic creation or transmission of harassing communications, direct threats, or other harmful texts, sounds, or images. It includes sending rumors by email, posting on social networking sites, or posting embarrassing photos, videos, or other content. Cyberbullying also includes breaking into another person's electronic account or assuming that person's online identity in order to damage that person's reputation.

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Students should be aware that Fresno Unified reserves all rights to discipline students for off-campus conduct that poses an identifiable threat to the safety of other students, staff, or school property or presents a risk of substantial disruption of school activities.

In addition to the consequences set forth below, students who violate Fresno Unified's social media policy may be required to take a relevant online course through the National Federation of State High School Associations at www.nfhslearn.com.

Consequences for Noncompliance with the Code of Conduct

All Fresno Unified rules of student conduct also apply to extracurricular activities. Students will observe all disciplinary rules established for regulating the conduct of students as set forth in Fresno Unified's Parent/Student Notification & Information Handbook (the "Parent/Student Handbook"), available at <https://www.fresnounified.org/Pages/parent-handbook.aspx>.

At all times, the safety of students and staff and the maintenance of an orderly school environment shall be Fresno Unified's priorities in determining appropriate discipline. When misconduct occurs, the co-curricular or extracurricular program shall attempt to identify the causes of the student's behavior and implement appropriate discipline. When choosing between different disciplinary strategies, the program shall consider the effect of each option on the student's health, well-being, and opportunity to learn and participate in the program.

Each instance of negative behavior must be examined on a case by case basis and will be deemed as a level 1, level 2, level 3, or level 4 offense. The nature and extent of the conduct will be evaluated alongside any mitigating circumstances. Categorizing behavior in this manner reflects Fresno Unified's efforts to set forth a uniform policy for assigning consequences to students who engage in disruptive actions or otherwise unacceptable conduct while participating in extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

The teacher, advisor, coach, athletic director, and/or school administrator will make every effort to ensure that the consequences fit the offense. The co-curricular or extracurricular program will enforce disciplinary rules fairly, consistently, and in accordance with Fresno Unified's nondiscrimination policies. Continued non-compliance will result in progressively stricter disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from the program and/or from participation in all co-curricular and extracurricular activities at the student's school. Parents may schedule a conference with the student's teacher or coach to discuss assigned consequences.

In addition, pursuant to the Parent/Student Handbook, students who are suspended from school are prohibited from participating in all extracurricular and co-curricular activities for up to 14 days.

The following is a rough set of guidelines to determine the appropriate level of negative behavior and corresponding set of potential consequences:

Level 1 Offenses

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A level 1 offense is a minor behavioral problem that needs to be corrected. Level 1 offenses typically can be handled through a meeting with the student's teacher or coach, and may include the student's parent. Level 1 offenses may also be handled by written/verbal warnings and/or placing the student on a probationary period. Some examples of level 1 offenses may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Minor violations of Fresno Unified's social media policy
- Minor acts of insubordination
- Unexcused absences and/or tardies to practices, meetings, and other events
- Failure to timely notify teacher or coach of future absence from practice, meeting, or other event, when reasonably practicable to do so
- Being disruptive during a game, meeting, practice, and/or other event
- Violating Fresno Unified's standards for dress and grooming or the standards set for the specific extracurricular activity
- Talking/not paying attention during practice/rehearsal, game, or event
- Unauthorized use of cell phone or electronics during practice/rehearsal, game, or event
- Showing up to a competition or event in an improper or incomplete uniform
- Engaging in profanity or vulgarity
- Engaging in misconduct otherwise prohibited by Fresno Unified's student code of conduct

Level 2 Offenses

A level 2 offense is a more serious behavioral problem that needs to be corrected. Level 2 offenses typically may be addressed by the consequences set forth above for level 1 offenses, but may also be addressed by removing the student's captainship or comparable position, if applicable, and/or limiting their playing time. Some examples of level 2 offenses may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Bullying
- Repeated unexcused absences and/or tardies to practices, meetings, and other events
- A second violation of Fresno Unified's social media policy
- Minor acts of insubordination
- Excessive tardies to practices, meetings, classes, and/or other events without permission
- Engaging in acts of poor sportsmanship, such as cheating, ejection from a competition, or taunting other participants
- Making defamatory statements about a teammate, team, the athletic department, other school staff member, or opposing team
- Other disrespectful or unsportsmanlike behavior
- Repeated level 1 offenses may constitute a level 2 offense.

Level 3 Offenses

A level 3 offense exemplifies major behavioral issues which leads to major implications and must be addressed in a more serious manner. In some instances, the student may also be suspended

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from practice and/or competitions for up to 14 days. Some examples of level 3 offenses may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Suspension from school
- Buying/selling, giving, delivering, using, or possessing performance-enhancing drugs
- Hazing
- Major/repeated violations of Fresno Unified's social media policy
- Being charged with committing a crime classified as a felony
- Outright disrespect towards a coach, teacher, or administrator
- Harassment, including harassment due to race, ethnicity, religion, gender, and sexual orientation
- Causing, attempting to cause, or threatening to cause physical injury to another person
- Stealing or attempting to steal from other students or school personnel
- Knowingly receiving stolen school property
- Damaging or attempting to damage school property
- Being charged with committing a crime classified as a misdemeanor
- Egregious or repeated behavior that would otherwise be categorized as a level 2 offense

Level 4 Offenses

A level 4 offense exemplifies extreme behavioral conduct which is illegal, dangerous, and/or seriously disruptive and can be addressed by temporary or permanent removal from the team or from all co-curricular and extracurricular activities and/or a recommendation that the student be expelled from Fresno Unified. Some examples of level 4 offenses may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Buying/selling, giving, delivering, using, possessing, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and/or drug paraphernalia
- Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object
- Egregious violations of Fresno Unified's social media policy, including posting messages or images depicting illegal activity or that cause irreparable harm and/or disrepute to the co-curricular or extracurricular program, the school, and/or Fresno Unified
- Committing or attempting to commit robbery or extortion
- Aggravated battery, which includes battery that causes great harm, involves a deadly weapon, or involves physical force against school personnel, or aiding and abetting in the commission of an aggravated battery
- Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault or sexual battery
- Causing, attempting to cause, or threatening to cause an act of hate violence
- Use of intimidation, coercion, stalking, or persistent severe bullying
- Confirmed gang activity or overt displays of gang affiliation
- Harassing, threatening, or intimidating a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness
- Making terrorist threats against other students, school officials, and/or school property

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- Being charged with committing a crime classified as a felony
- Egregious or repeated behavior that would otherwise be categorized as a level 2 or level 3 offense

In the event that evidence is produced substantiating that a student committed a level 3 or level 4 offense (or in some cases, a level 2 offense), the teacher, head coach, advisor, and/or athletic director shall have the discretion to suspend the student from the program. During any such suspension, the student may not participate in any practices or competitions. This will allow school administration to conduct an internal review of the alleged misconduct. The student will be reinstated if the matter has been resolved in his or her favor. However, if an investigation reveals that the student indeed committed the alleged offense, the school will take appropriate disciplinary action to ensure that the consequences fit the offense.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND SIGNATURE

I have read and understand the foregoing Uniform Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Code of Conduct and have been given the opportunity to discuss with my teacher or coach. Any and all questions I may have regarding the Code of Conduct have been resolved to my satisfaction.

My signature below acknowledges that I understand the terms set forth in the foregoing Code of Conduct and accept that they apply throughout my participation in Fresno Unified's co-curricular and extracurricular activities.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Sign Name: _____ Date: _____

My signature below acknowledges that I understand the terms set forth in the foregoing Code of Conduct and accept that they apply throughout my student's participation in Fresno Unified's co-curricular and extracurricular activities.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Date: _____

Sign Name: _____ Date: _____