

2025-2026 School Year

Bayard Public Schools Student-Parent Activities Handbook



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Bayard Public Schools is to partner with parents to provide a successful educational experience and diverse opportunities.

Bayard Public Schools 1 Student-Parent Activity Handbook

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Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Bayard Public Schools is to partner with parents to provide a successful educational experience and diverse opportunities.

VISION STATEMENT

Bayard Public Schools will effectively provide and adapt its programs to meet the needs of its students, today and in the future.

CORE COVENANTS

BAYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Focused on the Student

- Positive Interactions and Relationships

- Focus On Student Potential

- Diverse Opportunities

- Unconditional Acceptance

Attitude of Excellence

- Act With Integrity

- Expect To Be Great

- Accept Daily Challenges & Setbacks

- Think “Big Picture”

Community

- Support Each Other

- Set Aside Self For Benefit Of The Group

- Respect Everyone

- Be A Wing, Not A Weight

Tiger Way!

Every Person, Every Day. It's a **FACT!**

ACADEMIC SEAL OF BAYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS



At the center of the seal is an image of Chimney Rock. This historic landmark was used by the first Americans and, later, by the pioneers as a guide on their epic journeys. Chimney Rock continues to inspire countless travelers and residents alike. Chimney Rock enhances our sense of place and instills pride, as the landmark prominently stands above the fertile North Platte River Valley.

The phrase, ***Every Person, Every Day***, which is derived from the Core Covenants of Bayard Public Schools, reminds us of the dignity and value of every member of our school community. Every person matters for the future of our school and community, and every day is an opportunity to make a contribution to our greater well-being.

Surrounding the central ring are academic pillars and six icons describing our enduring strengths, values, and aspirations.

Academics: At the top of the seal is a Book of Knowledge, symbolizing academics as our highest institutional value and first priority.

Athletics and Arts: Flanking the Book of Knowledge on the left is the school's Tiger mascot, representing athletics and the fiercely competitive nature of our student-athletes. Flanking the Book of Knowledge on the right is an artists' palette and musical notes, representing the arts and the creative talents of our student performers. Athletics and arts support and enhance the academic and personal development of our students.

Community: The efforts of the school are supported by the entire community. Regular interactions between the faculty, staff, students, parents, and patrons are essential to a vibrant community and a strong school.

Opportunity: Two keys and a lock represent the importance of opportunity. Education provides a key to unlocking many opportunities for our students. Equally important, providing our students with many opportunities is key to their development.

Agriculture: Our community and economy are supported by an agricultural base. The plow symbolizes agriculture and the strong agrarian work ethic of our community and our students.

Student-Parent Activities Handbook

Extracurricular Activity Philosophy

Extracurricular activity programs enrich the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of activities in which a student can participate. Extracurricular activity programs are considered an integral part of the school's program of education that provides experiences that will help students physically, mentally and emotionally.

The element of competition and winning, though it exists, is controlled to the point it does not determine the nature or success of the program. This is considered to be educationally and psychologically sound because of the training it offers for living in a competitive society. Students are stimulated to want to win and excel, but the principles of good sportsmanship prevail at all times to enhance the educational values of contests. Participation in activities, both as a competitor and as a student spectator, is an integral part of the students' educational experiences. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, community and the students themselves. In their play and their conduct, students are representing all of these groups. Such experiences contribute to the knowledge, skill and emotional patterns that they possess, thereby making them better individuals and citizens. Most extracurricular school activities involve association with other students and travel to other communities. The impressions we leave will have a direct bearing on the reputation we establish while taking part in these activities. The ability to use facilities and not disturb their appearance or remove equipment that does not belong to us is essential for successful activity programs. The primary purpose of attending school is to receive an education. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege dependent upon each student's acceptable behavior and his/her satisfactory progress toward fulfilling their education requirements. The Administration has the responsibility and authority to withhold any student from activities whose behavior casts a poor reflection on the school. Students may be declared ineligible to participate either as a participant or a spectator in any or all activities of Bayard Public Schools.

Student Expectations

1. Bayard students respect the rights and property of others and are courteous and polite in action and language.
2. Bayard students display good sportsmanship in representing the school and community.
3. Bayard students strive for honesty and accept responsibility for both their successes and their failures.
4. Bayard students strive for high academic achievement in such a manner that it brings respect to themselves and the school.
5. Bayard students avoid alcohol and drugs.

Student Expectations at Home Games

Bayard School students' conduct at home games reflects not only on you, but on your school, our

school district, and community. Please show pride in our school, our school district, and community by showing your best behavior and sportsmanship. Students who choose to attend home games are choosing to attend to support and cheer on Bayard's teams. Students will be asked to leave if they are constantly out of their seats and/or not abiding by any of the below-mentioned expectations. This may also result in an Office Referral and subsequent loss of future BPS activity attendance.

- Students who receive an office referral during the week of a home game will not be able to attend the game or sit in the student section. They can attend and sit with their parent/guardian ONLY.
- Students will be required to sit for the entire game. During quarter/halftime breaks, you may get out of your seat and leave the stands to use the restroom and purchase something from the concession stand. You must then return directly to your seat.
- If you leave the game, you will not be allowed to return.
- At NO TIME are students to be on the court, in the halls, in classrooms, or on the field.
- Students will not sit on or lean over rails, ropes, or designated areas.
- Please keep the aisles clear at all times.
- Please stand, remove your hat, and be respectful during the playing of the Star Spangled Banner.
- If a student is asked to leave the game, they will not be permitted to sit in the student section for a selected number of home games (as determined by the administration) for the rest of the season. They will only be allowed to attend if they sit with their parent/guardian.
- ALL elementary students must be accompanied by, and sit with, a designated adult during home games.

Players will:

Show respect for teammates, coaches, opponents and officials.

Use no foul language, trash talk, negative gestures or actions to provoke a negative response.

Unsportsmanlike conduct resulting in a penalty or not will be dealt with by reprimand and counseling by the coach or appropriate other school officials. Actions of this nature may lead to benching, suspension and/or withdrawal of athletic leadership positions such as being a team captain further loss of privileges and school disciplinary intervention if the rules/policies are violated.

High School Building Hours

Unless special activities or an early morning class make it necessary, students should not be in the building before 7:40 AM and this is the time the grab and go breakfast will be available.

Students entering the building prior to 7:40 AM for a special meeting are to remain in their meeting room until 7:40 Students who are not involved in special activities or meetings with a staff member are directed to leave the building immediately following their last assigned class.

Students who are not required to attend intervention, but ride the bus or are waiting for practice

are directed to refrain from being present in areas without supervision by school personnel. Students may work in classrooms or the library as long as supervision is present. Practices, rehearsals, or meetings in B.H.S., WITHOUT A SPONSOR BEING PRESENT, are not permitted.

Bayard Jr./Sr. High School Bell Schedule

Zero Hour: 7:11 – 7:57
1st period: 8:00 – 8:48
2nd period: 8:51 – 9:37
3rd period: 9:40 – 10:26
4th period: 10:29 – 11:15
5th period: 11:18 – 12:34
 Lunch A: 11:15 – 11:45
 5th A 11:48 – 12:34
 5th B 11:18—12:04
 Lunch B: 12:04 – 12:34
6th period: 12:37 – 1:23
7th period: 1:26 – 2:12
8th period: Leadership Development 2:15 – 2:42
9th period: 2:45 – 3:31

Pride and Care of Bayard Public Schools

The Bayard Schools are some of the finest facilities in the region for which the community and each student can rightfully be proud. Careful use of the building and grounds is essential to maintaining their beauty and effectiveness. Please remember that everyone pays taxes to support and maintain our schools. Refrain from doing anything to increase maintenance expenses, and discourage others who would vandalize or knowingly damage your school. If you cause any damage to the building (broken windows, etc.) please report it promptly so that it may be repaired. Breaking of equipment or damage to the building will result in a parent conference and/or payment for damages. Where the minor does not make restitution, the parents or legal guardian shall be held liable. Willful damage or destruction of school property will result in school discipline and/or referral to law enforcement agencies.

Leaving the school during the school day

If, for some reason, a student must leave the school during the day, he/she must have permission of the principal or designated official and must sign out in the office before he/she leaves. Students who must leave school for any reason must check out of the office before leaving. Students leaving must be cleared in advance by a note or phone call from the student's parent or guardian. In the event that school personnel are unable to contact a parent or guardian the school principal or superintendent will make an *in loco parentis* decision about whether or not a student will be permitted to leave school.

Junior High/Senior High Absentees and Tardies

All students in grades 7-12 will be allowed up to nine (9) excused absences per semester.

After the 9th absence, credit will be deducted as follows:

0-9 days absent 0 credits deducted per course

10-15 absences 1 credit deducted per course

16-20 absences 2 credits deducted per course

21-25 absences 3 credits deducted per course

26-30 absences 4 credits deducted per course

31 + absences 5 credits deducted per course

To receive full credit for a class in which a student has been absent in excess of nine periods, the student will be given the opportunity to make up the time missed. Teachers will provide make-up (or extra credit work) to be done during the make-up period. The student will be supervised during the make-up time by the school principal or by an assigned detention teacher. The student must serve the same number of make-up minutes (per missed class) as the class was originally scheduled to meet, in order to receive full credit for making up a period. Scheduling of the make up time will be done by the school principal. The make-up time may be scheduled before school, after school, or on weekends, but it **MUST** be served during the same semester as the absent day it is being served to make up. Absences for school-sponsored activities are not to be included in the nine-day absence policy.

The administration reserves the right to subtract from the number of absences those occasions which a student is hospitalized, prescribed bed rest by a physician, or gone due to a family emergency. (Family emergencies may include but not limited to accidents, funerals, etc.) The school administration will require written documentation from a hospital or a physician for absences due to prescribed bed rest.

Junior/Senior High Dances

When attending school-sponsored dances, students may dress casually, unless otherwise designated: however, muscle shirts, etc. are not acceptable attire. Students that elect to leave the dance, once it has started, will not be allowed to return. School sponsored dances will be under the supervision of school employees or activity sponsors.

Students that wish to bring dates from outside the Bayard School system may do so but must obtain permission from the principal. Students attending high school dances shall be no younger than a high school freshman or not above the age of 20. This applies to students from other schools as well as from Bayard. Persons who are not regularly enrolled in a high school or graduates of high school will not be approved by the principal.

ACTIVITIES

HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Digital Media---Yearbook and Newspaper
Football
Quiz Bowl
Boys and Girls Basketball
One-Act Plays
Boys and Girls Golf
Boys and Girls Track
Speech
Boys and Girls Cross Country
Volleyball
FFA
Boys and Girls Wrestling
~~Spanish Club~~ (Not available currently, but may be in years to come)
DI
National Honor Society
Student Council
Cheerleading
eSports
HOSA
Educators Rising
~~Skills USA~~ (Not available currently, but may be in years to come.)
Softball

JUNIOR HIGH ACTIVITIES

Quiz Bowl
DI
Boys and Girls Basketball
Football
Boys and Girls Cross Country
Boys and Girls Track
Volleyball
Boys and Girls Wrestling

HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC

Concert Band
Pep Band
~~Jazz Band~~
Marching Band
Mixed Choir
21st Century Singers

JUNIOR HIGH MUSIC

Concert Band
Show Choir
Marching Band

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The class and/or activity sponsors shall be responsible for the approval or disapproval and scheduling of the social activities of classes and organizations within the scope of the regulations, with the final decision resting with the administration.

School activities shall close at 12:00 midnight. Junior-Senior Prom shall close at 1:00 a.m. Exception to these times will be by administrators' discretion.

Practice Scheduling

Practices are not to start until 4:00 on a normal day, no team meetings etc. during homeroom even if most or all students are available, unless approved by both the principal and activities director.

On Wednesday, all students must be out of the building by 6:00 p.m. for all activities. All students will be encouraged to leave school grounds prior to 6:00 p.m. Sunday Practice: No practices shall be scheduled on Sundays, unless necessary for post season games.

There will be no practices for any sport or activity on days when school has been dismissed or is not in session due to inclement weather.

Each Head Coach/Sponsor will give each student a list of any additional regulations that apply to a specific sport or activity.

Student Activity Trips

Student activity trips will be divided into three classes:

CLASS I - Activities that are sponsored by the Nebraska Schools Activity Association and that are earned by qualifying at a local or district level competition. The District will provide financial support for these trips.

CLASS II - Trips that are earned or taken by groups or individuals that are related to classroom experience, the District will provide some financial support for these trips. (Examples are FFA and FCCLA)

CLASS III - Trips taken by groups when their activity is not related to NSAA sponsored activities or classroom related. These trips will only be taken during the summer, and only one group per year will be allowed to go. The District will provide no financial support for these trips.

Individuals who desire to take part in individual activities at the state or national level must adhere to NSAA regulations. The District will provide no financial support for these trips.

Fundraisers and Activity Accounts

In order to ensure that the resources of the community are not strained as a result of multiple fundraisers occurring at simultaneously, all student organization fundraisers (other than the concession stand) must be approved by the organization's sponsor, the activities director, building principal, bookkeeper, and superintendent. When an organization wishes to engage in a

fundraising activity the sponsor will need to complete a Fundraiser Request Sheet and submit the form to the Activities Director. Fundraising activities should not begin until the request has been approved by the superintendent.

Funds earned in the name of a school organization belong to the organization rather than to the individual student. When students engage in fundraising as a member of a school organization (such as activities, groups, teams, or clubs) the proceeds from the fundraising shall remain with the organization regardless of the continued participation status of the student in such organization. If organizations are disbanded all funds remaining with the organization will be transferred to the activity travel account.

***Cash and checks which are collected are to be accounted for by the sponsor and remitted to the school bookkeeper each business day. All cash and checks must be remitted to the bookkeeper within 24 hours of the completion of any fundraiser.

Safety

The District's philosophy is to maintain an activities program which recognizes the importance of the safety of the participants. To ensure safety, participants are required to become fully familiar with the dangers and safety measures established for the activity in which they participate, to adhere to all safety instructions for the activity in which they participate, to inform their coach or sponsor when they are injured or have health problems that require their activities be restricted, and to exercise common-sense.

Warning for Participants and Parents

The purpose of this warning is to bring your attention to the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic injuries. Participation in any intramural or athletic activity may involve injury of some type. The severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord. On rare occasions, injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis or death. Even with appropriate coaching, appropriate safety instruction, appropriate protective equipment and strict observance of the rules, injuries are still a possibility.

A parent or guardian wishing to take their student/athlete with them following a contest must give written and verbal notification to the coach/sponsor in charge. The parent is to fill out the colored form which the student should get from the office, or head coach. The form is given to the coach preferably before the bus leaves school, but is up to the discretion of each head coach. The head coach should keep these forms until the end of the current school year.

Concussions: Return to Learn Protocol

Students who sustain a concussion and return to school may need informal or formal accommodations, modifications of curriculum, and monitoring by medical or academic staff until the student is fully recovered. The school administration of Bayard Public Schools adopts the NDE Guidance entitled "Bridging the Gap from Concussion to the Classroom," and accompanying Appendix, as its return to learn protocol, with the recognition that each student

who has sustained a concussion will require an individualized response.

Junior/Senior High Athletic Insurance

All pupils participating in interschool athletics (including practice) shall have athletic insurance. They may purchase school-sponsored insurance or sign a verification form, informing the school district that they have their own insurance carrier or a signed waiver from the parents relieving the school of all responsibility

Student Valuables

Students, not the school, are responsible for their personal property. Students are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or items of value to school. If it is necessary to bring valuable items or more money than is needed to pay for lunch, leave the money or valuables with a staff member in the school office for temporary and safekeeping. Even then, the school is not in a position to guarantee that the student's property will not be subject to loss, theft, or damage.

Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct: Purpose of the Code of Conduct

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. The privilege carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, and the community. Participants are not only representing themselves, but also their school and community in all of their actions. Others judge our school on the student participants' conduct and attitudes, and how they contribute to our school spirit and community image.

The student participants' performance and devotion to high ideals and values make their school and community proud. Consequently, participation is dependent upon adherence to this Code of Conduct and the school district's policies, procedures and rules.

Foul language has no place at the music contest, on the athletic field, in the dressing room, or on the school campus. The use of foul language will not be tolerated. Noncooperation in this matter will result in parental conferences and continued use of bad language will result in disciplinary action.

A student automatically assumes a leadership role when you take part in extracurricular school activities. The student body and citizens of Bayard know you. You are in the center stage with the spotlight on you. All judge you.

There is to be no hazing or initiation of other students, as this is the one easy way to break up the group and team unity that is essential for success.

Participation in Extracurricular Activities

It is the goal of the Bayard Athletic Program to offer the opportunity of participation to every

student who has the ability and desire to do so. Interscholastic athletics fosters competition and cooperation. It also represents an area of great potential for teaching dedication, perseverance, courage, poise and for the pursuit of excellence, all traits that are essential ingredients in achieving a happy, successful life.

However, no student is obligated to take part in athletics nor is participation in athletics required for graduation. It is to be stressed that participation in the athletic program is a **PRIVILEGE**.

The Bayard Athletic Program is comprised of three seasons, fall, winter, and spring. Fall sports include Girls Golf, Girls Cross Country, Girls Volleyball, Boys Cross Country, Girls Softball, and Boys Football. Winter sports include Girls Basketball, Wrestling, and Boys Basketball. Spring sports include Girls Track & Field, Boys Golf, and Boys Track & Field.

A student-athlete may not drop from a team after the first regular season contest and participate in another sport during the same season. No student will be allowed to join an athletic team after the first regular season contest, unless they are a student who has moved into the Bayard School District from another district and meets all of the eligibility requirements.

Coaching and Developing the Team

1. Identify students for participation in the sport or activity and encourage students to participate.
2. Conduct a pre-season/activity meeting with parents and participants and provide them with information about team procedures, the parent-student activity handbook, forms required to be completed for participation, training and conduct rules, practice requirements, and lettering or other recognition standards.
3. The head coach of each sport has the final decision on how to conduct practices, make fair and consistent decisions regarding team selection, level of participation (varsity, JV, etc.), and playing time. The head coach has the final decision on what students will be retained on the team and which ones will not be retained. If not to be retained the student must be told the reason for the decision.

Scope of the Code of Conduct

Activities Subject to the Code of Conduct: The Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the school district which do not count toward graduation or grade advancement and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school. Extracurricular activities include but are not limited to: all sports, vocal, band, speech and drama, One-Act, FFA, FCCLA, and Spanish Club (Not available currently, but may be in years to come), Student Council, National Honor Society, and other school sponsored organizations and activities. The Code of Conduct also applies to participation in school sponsored activities such as school dances and royalty for such activities. A participant means a student who participates in, has participated in, or will participate in an extracurricular activity.

When: The Code of Conduct rules apply to conduct which occurs at any time during the school year, and also includes the time frame which begins with the official starting day of the fall sport season established by the NSAA and extends to the last day of the spring sport season established by the NSAA, whether or not the student is a participant in an activity at the time of such

conduct.

The rules also apply when a student is participating or scheduled to participate in an extracurricular activity that is held outside the school year or the NSAA season. For example, if an FCCLA student plans to participate in a conference in July and commits a Code of Conduct infraction in June, the student may be suspended from participating in the conference. Conduct during the summer months may also affect a student's participation under the team selection and playing time guidelines.

Where: The Code of Conduct rules apply regardless of whether the conduct occurs on and off school grounds. If the conduct occurs on school grounds, at a school function or event, or in a school vehicle, the student may also be subject to further discipline under the general student code of conduct. A student who is suspended or expelled from school shall not be permitted to participate in activities during the period of the suspension or expulsion, and may also receive an extended activity suspension.

Grounds for Extracurricular Activity Discipline

Students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate cooperation, patience, pride, character, self-respect, self-discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for authority. The following conduct rules have been determined by the Board of Education to be reasonably necessary to aid students, further school purposes, and prevent interference with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for suspension from participation in extracurricular activities and grounds for other restrictions or disciplinary measures related to extracurricular activity participation:

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.

2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, bullying, harassment or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school or extracurricular activity purposes or making any communication that a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.

3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property, repeated damage or theft involving property or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.

4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect another person shall not constitute a violation.

5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from a student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.

6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon, or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks, on school grounds or at a school function or event, or in a manner that is unlawful or contrary to school activity rules.

7. Selling, using, possessing or dispensing alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, a controlled

substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. (Note: Refer to “Drug and Alcohol Violations” for further information).

8. Public indecency.

9. Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person. Engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event.

10. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students, interferes with school purposes or an extracurricular activity, or reflects a lack of high ideals.

11. Repeated violation of any of the school rules.

12. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.

13. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin, or religion.

14. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student’s health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school or of an extracurricular activity; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.

15. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Bayard Public School buses or vehicles used for activity purposes.

16. Failure to report for the activity at the beginning of the season. Reporting for one activity may count as reporting on time if there is a change in activity within the season approved by the coach or the supervisor.

17. Failure to participate in regularly scheduled classes on the day of an extracurricular activity or event.

18. Failure to attend scheduled practices and meetings. If circumstances arise to prevent the participant’s attendance, the validity of the reason will be determined by the coach or sponsor. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify the coach or sponsor prior to any missed practice or meeting.

19. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or sponsor of an extracurricular activity shall be followed, provided that participants shall be advised by the coach or sponsor of such rules and regulations by written handouts or posting on bulletin boards prior to the violation of the rule or regulation.

20. Failure to comply with any rule established by the Nebraska School Activities Association, including, but not limited to, the rules relating to eligibility. All terms used in the Code of Conduct have a less strict meaning than under criminal law and are subject to reasonable interpretation by school officials.

Hazing – For Activities this procedure and its consequences are in effect year round.

Hazing by classes, clubs, athletic teams or other student organizations are prohibited. No student, teacher, administrator or other school district employee, contractor or volunteer shall plan, direct, encourage, aid or engage in hazing. No student, teacher, administrator or other school district employee, contractor or volunteer shall permit, condone or tolerate hazing. Apparent permission or consent by a person being hazed does not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy. A person who engages in an act that violates school policy or law in order to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization shall be subject to discipline for that act. This policy applies to hazing behavior that occurs on or off school property, during and after school hours and covers periods when school is not in session. The school district will act to investigate and/or report to law enforcement all complaints of hazing and will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator or other school district employee, contractor or volunteer who is found to have violated this policy. For purposes of this section, hazing means any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of an individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership with any organization. Such hazing activity includes whipping, beating, branding, an act of sexual penetration, an exposure of the genitals of the body done with intent to affront or alarm any person, a lewd fondling or caressing of the body of another person, forced and prolonged calisthenics, prolonged exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or harmful substance not generally intended for human consumption, prolonged sleep deprivation, or any brutal treatment or the performance of any unlawful act which endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person.

Drug and Alcohol Violations

Use or consume includes any level of consumption or use. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. Under the influence means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student, or the odor of an illicit drug on the student. Also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.

Possession includes having control of the substance and also includes being in the same area where the substance is present and no responsible adult present and responsible for the substance. Possession includes situations where, for example:

(1) Alcohol is in a vehicle in which the student is present. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that the alcohol is in the vehicle, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol; and

(2) Alcohol is present at a party attended by the student. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that alcohol is at the party and fails to immediately leave the party, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol. In these situations, a violation would not exist if the alcohol is in the control of a parent or guardian or other responsible adult (age 21 or older) such that students are not allowed to access the alcohol. A

violation would also not exist if the student did not know or have a reasonable basis to know that alcohol would be present, and the student leaves the location where the alcohol is present as soon the student could safely do so. (Students are expected to leave immediately, but are not to do so in a manner that would endanger them. For example, you are not to leave in a car being driven by a person who has been drinking just to get away from the alcohol party immediately when there is no other way to get home. Instead, you should call for a safe ride home and, while waiting, clearly distance yourself from the alcohol).

Consequences

Students may be suspended from practices or participation in interscholastic competition or participation in co-curricular activities for violations of the Code of Conduct. The period of suspension or other discipline for such offenses shall be determined by the school administration. The disciplinary consequence will be determined based on consideration of the seriousness of the offense, any prior violations, the student's compliance with the self-reporting obligations, the student's level of cooperation and willingness to resolve the matter, and the student's demonstration of a commitment to not commit future violations.

Because of the significance of drug and alcohol violations on the student participants, other students and the school, the following consequences are established for such violations:

Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs and Controlled Substances

Any Bayard School student engaging in the selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, drug paraphernalia, controlled substances, inhalants or being under the influence of any of the above; will be subject to the following disciplinary actions, providing the incident has been reported in one of the following ways:

1. ADMISSION by the participant involved.
2. WRITTEN STATEMENT of the violation from a certified staff member or coach.
3. WRITTEN STATEMENT of the violation from a parent/guardian of the participant.
4. CHARGED WITH OR CITED by law enforcement personnel or accepting a diversion program in lieu of charges being filed.

Note: The term "under the influence" for school purposes has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law. For school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student. Also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant. In addition, "possession" of alcohol or drugs will be considered to have occurred for purposes of school rules if the student is in such close proximity to alcohol or drug (for example, a student being in a car where alcohol is in the back seat and no adults are present in the car) or to others who are consuming alcohol or drugs (for example, being at a student party at which other students are drinking) that school officials may reasonably determine that the student was in "possession" of the items as well). The following disciplinary actions for violations occurring while not on school property are based on self-reporting. The student must self-report any violations/possible violations within a 48-hour

period from the time of violation to the administration, athletic director, or coach. If a student fails to self-report such violation and it is later learned that the violation took place, the discipline for the action will be doubled.

Self-Reporting

A student who violates must self-report. A failure to self-report will lead to a longer suspension or other discipline. The self-report must be made to: the principal, athletic director, or the head coach or sponsor of an activity in which the student participates. In making a self-report, the student must identify the events that took place, what conduct the student engaged in, and any witnesses to the student's conduct. All students are expected to be honest and forthright with school officials. In the event the coach or activity sponsor or any school administrator asks a student participant for information pertaining to compliance (or lack of compliance) by the student or other student participants the student is expected to fully, completely, and honestly provide the information. Students may be disciplined for a failure to be honest and forthright.

Violations occurring while not on school property

Violations not occurring on school property will result in the following discipline. The student shall not be allowed to participate in, but must still practice for the activity with the team or group, and shall not attend any school sponsored activity for fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of written notification and must complete a minimum of eight (8) hours of professional alcohol and or drug education and counseling. (The education course and or counseling will be the parents or students expense).

The eight (8) hours of professional education/counseling must be completed before the student can again begin participation in the activities program. Suspensions for violations occurring during the summer shall commence with the beginning of the next school year.

Violations occurring while on school property

Violations occurring on school property or while attending or participating in school related activities will result in the student being suspended from school for five (5) school days. After the suspension, the student shall not be allowed to participate in, but must still practice for the activity with the team or group, and shall not attend any school sponsored activity for fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of written notification and must complete a minimum of eight (8) hours of professional alcohol and or drug education and counseling. (The education course and or counseling will be the parents or students expense.) The eight (8) hours of professional education/counseling must be completed before the student can again begin participation in the activities program.

If the disciplinary actions from any violation of this policy, are not completed during the current school term the following will apply. The number of days that remain to complete the suspension from activities will be completed during the next school term. The 8 hours of professional alcohol and or drug education must also be completed before the student can begin participation in the activities program the following year. Forfeiture of the right to hold honorary positions

will not be carried forward to the next school term. In the case of violations occurring on school property, days suspended from school will not carry forward to the next school year. A second violation of these rules and regulations during any one year period, whether occurring on or off school property, will result in the student being ineligible to compete in or participate in or attend any extracurricular activity for **12 months is in effect beginning with the date of the first violation**. These consequences will carry over from one school year to the next. Any student who is suspended under this policy will forfeit their right to hold any of the following honorary positions during the year in which the suspension occurred. This includes: homecoming king or queen, winter royalty king or queen, prom king or queen, Citizenship Award, Book of Knowledge, Class Yoke, School Spirit Award, Athletic Letter Award, current standing in the National Honor Society, prom server, class officer, student council officer, and nomination for any post season athletic awards including all conference, all district, all regional, and all state. Any transfer student, who is under suspension at their previous school for alcohol and/or drug policy violations, may be required to complete their period of suspension prior to becoming eligible at Bayard Public Schools at the discretion of the superintendent. Notice of the suspension hereunder shall be given to the student and the student's parents and the student and his or her parent shall have an opportunity to present his or her version, however, the suspension shall take effect upon the delivery of the notice of suspension to the student. This policy is in effect 12 months of the year, including both the school term and the summer months. The 12 months is in effect beginning with the date of the first violation. These consequences will carry over from one school year to the next.

When Suspensions Begin

All suspensions begin with the next scheduled activity in which the student is a participant, after the determination by school officials of the sanction to be imposed; provided that the school officials shall have the discretion to establish a time period for the suspension that makes the suspension have a real consequence for the student. During a suspension, participants may be required or permitted to practice at the sole discretion of the coach or activity sponsor. Suspensions in the Spring will be carried over to the Fall when the suspension has not been fully served or when determined appropriate for the suspension to have a real consequence for the student.

Determining a Violation Has Occurred

A violation of the Code of Conduct will be determined to have occurred based on any of the following criteria:

1. When a student is cited by law enforcement and school officials have a reasonable basis for determining that grounds for the issuance of the citation exist.
2. When a student is convicted of a criminal offense. Conviction includes, without limitation, a plea of no contest and an adjudication of delinquency by the juvenile court.
3. When a student admits to violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct.
4. When a student is accused by another person of violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct and school officials determine that such information is reliable.
5. When school officials otherwise find sufficient evidence to support a determination that a violation has occurred.

Procedures for Extracurricular Discipline

The following procedures are established for suspensions from participation in extracurricular activities

1. Investigation. The school official(s) considering the suspension will conduct a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances and determine whether the suspension will help the student or other students, further school purposes, or prevent an interference with a school purpose.
2. Meeting. Prior to commencement of the suspension, the school official considering the suspension or their designee will provide the student an opportunity to give the student's side of the story. The meeting for this purpose may be held in person or via a telephone conference.
 - a. The student will be given oral or written notice of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the school has, and the opportunity to explain the student's version. Detail is not required where the activity participant has made a self-report or otherwise admits the conduct.
Names of informants may be kept confidential where determined to be appropriate.
 - b. The suspension may be imposed prior to the meeting if the meeting cannot reasonably be held before the suspension is to begin. In that case the meeting will occur as soon as reasonably practicable. The student is responsible for cooperating in the scheduling of the meeting.
3. Notice Letter. Within two school days (two business days if school is not in session), or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Athletic Director or the Athletic Director's designee will send a written statement to the student and the student's parents or guardian. The statement will describe the student's conduct violation and the discipline imposed.
The student and parents or guardian will be informed of the opportunity to request a hearing.
4. Informal Hearing Before Superintendent. The student or student's parent/guardian may request an informal hearing before the Superintendent. The Superintendent may designate the Athletic Director or another administrator not responsible for the suspension decision as the Superintendent's designee to conduct the hearing and make a decision.
 - a. A form to request such a hearing must be signed by the parent or guardian. A form will be provided with the notice letter or otherwise be made available by request from the Principal's office.
 - b. The request for a hearing must be received by the Superintendent's office within five days of receipt of the notice letter.
 - c. If a hearing is requested:
 - i. The hearing will be held within ten calendar days of receipt of the request;
subject to extension for good cause as determined by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
 - ii. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will notify the

participants of the time and place of the hearing a reasonable time in advance to allow preparation for the hearing.

iii. Upon conclusion of the hearing, a written decision will be rendered within five school days (ten calendar days if school is not in session).

The written decision will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the participant, parents or guardian.

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d. A record of the hearing (copies of documents provided at the hearing and a tape recording or other recordation of the informal hearing) will be kept by the school if requested sufficiently in advance of the hearing by the parent/guardian.

5. No Stay of Penalty. There will be no stay of the penalty imposed pending completion of the due process procedures

6. Opportunity for Informal Resolution. These due process procedures do not prevent the student or parent/guardian from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school officials at any stage.

Alcohol Tests

It is a violation of Board Policy and school rules for a student to use or be under the influence of alcohol while on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school sponsored activity or athletic event. The Superintendent of Schools or his or her designee may require students to consent and submit to a breath test to determine the presence of alcohol or similar alcohol sensor (a “Test”) as a prerequisite for admittance to any voluntary school event or activity if the Superintendent determines that such practice is necessary for the safety of students at such event or will prevent interference with school purposes. If the Test reveals that a student is under the influence of alcohol or the student refuses to submit to the Test, then the student may be denied admittance to the event (in addition to being subject to further discipline as allowed by law, school rules, and Board Policy).

The Superintendent of Schools or his or her designee may require a student to submit to a Test at any time while on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school sponsored activity or athletic event if the Superintendent or his or her designee reasonably suspects that the student is under the influence of alcohol.

3-Strike Rule

A **3-strike rule** in an educational setting for athletes and students involved in sports activities is a disciplinary or behavioral policy that outlines consequences for repeated violations of rules or expectations. It is to ensure that students participating in sports uphold the standards in behavior, academics, and attendance while promoting responsibility and respect by encouraging accountability, sportsmanship, and academic balance.

Strike 1: Warning & Intervention

- **Cause:** First infraction (violence, substance use/possession, gross disrespect, Proven gross disrespect on social media, unexcused absences, excessive absenteeism during school or the activity verified or unverified, and disciplinary actions in school to include but not limited to detentions, suspensions, and expulsions.)
- **Action Taken:**
 - Verbal and/or written warning.(Date/infraction noted)
 - Meeting with the coach/teacher and possibly parents.
 - Corrective action for student/athlete given.
 - Still allowed to participate in games and practice (unless the offense is severe).

Strike 2: Probation

- **Cause:** Second infraction of the same or different nature.
- **Action Taken:**
 - Written notification to the student and parents via remind. (Meeting may be set up per coaches request at this time.)
 - Temporary suspension from games possible.
 - Mandatory follow-up with academic or behavioral support services.
 - Final warning regarding future participation.

Strike 3: Suspension or Removal

- **Cause:** Third infraction or major misconduct.
- **Action Taken:**

- Immediate suspension or dismissal from the team.
 - Loss of privileges associated with athletic participation (e.g., team trips, awards).
 - Possible involvement of the school administration for further disciplinary action.
-

Common Infractions Covered

- Continued poor academic performance (e.g., GPA below minimum requirement per school policies and NSAA guidelines)
- Repeated unexcused absences/tardiness
- Disrespectful or aggressive behavior
- Violations of the school code of conduct
- Substance abuse or possession
- Violence - This could be against another player, student, or adult.
- Gross Disrespect - This would be gross disrespect directed at another player, student, or adult.
- Inappropriate language used directly or indirectly towards another student, player, or adult.
- Proven gross disrespect on social media to include but not limited to derogatory remarks towards the team, a player, a student, or an adult.
- Disciplinary actions in school to include but not limited to detentions, suspensions, and expulsions.

(Other infractions may occur and will be at the discretion of the coach after discussing with administration.)

(NOTE: Students can receive more than 1 strike per incident, depending upon severity.)

Attendance

Student participants are expected to meet the following attendance expectations:

1. Attend school regularly. Students who have “excessive absences” as determined under the school’s attendance policy are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances. Students who have four or more unexcused absences in the semester of participation will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances.

2. Be on time for all scheduled practices, contests and departure for contests. In the event a participant is unable to attend a practice or contests the participant should contact the coach or sponsor in advance.

3. Participants in any activity must have good attendance and should never be truant from classes. Students may not practice or participate in any activity if they have an unexcused absence during the school day. Students may participate in a school related activity or practice so long as the absence was excused by 3:00 p.m. that day. However, students who are absent due to illness during periods 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 or the two periods prior to departure for an away contest earlier than 3 pm, may not practice, participate in an activity that day or travel to participate in the activity.

Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances, such as doctor/dentist appointments or family emergencies. The exception must be approved by the administration. Every attempt should be made to be in attendance the day of a contest. Sleeping in to rest up for the game will not be considered an extenuating circumstance, nor will going home ill and then returning to play in the contest later that day.

(Students will work with the coaches and administrators about other attendance exceptions as they arise. The decision will be made by administration at that time.)

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 activity 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 so as to minimize conflicts.

Students have a responsibility to do everything they can to avoid continuous conflicts. This would include being cautious about becoming a member of too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means notifying the faculty sponsors involved immediately when a conflict does arise.

When conflicts do arise, the sponsors will get together and work out a solution so the student does not feel caught in the middle. If a solution cannot be found, the Activity Director or Principal will have to make the decision based on the following:

1. The relative importance of each event;
2. The importance of each event to the student;
3. The relative contribution the student can make;
4. How long each event has been scheduled;
5. Talk with parents.

Once the decision has been made and the student has followed that decision, he/she will not be penalized in any way by the faculty sponsor. If it becomes obvious that a student cannot fulfill the obligation of a school activity, he/she should withdraw from that activity.

Academic Standards

Participation in extracurricular school activities is encouraged and desirable for all students. At the same time, the primary mission and responsibility for each student is to establish a firm academic foundation. A student participating in extracurricular school activities show evidence of sincere effort towards scholastic achievement.

Eligibility for Activities – HIGH SCHOOL AND JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS

I. Any student 7 - 12 who is on the failing list in 2 (two) or more subjects will be declared ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activity in which he or she is involved. The ineligibility list will be distributed to staff and sponsors on the first day of school each week. It is the responsibility of the staff and sponsors to notify students of their ineligible status. The student can remove himself/herself from the ineligibility list when work is completed and an Ineligibility list Removal Form is handed into the Activities Director's Office.

A. Bayard Junior/Senior High School has incorporated that all assignments and homework are due on assigned dates unless illness, school sponsored activity or prearranged changes have been reached between the student and instructor. All students failing 1 (one) or more classes or that have missing assignments will be asked to attend academic intervention beginning at 3:30. The student will work on missing or failing work at the discretion of that teacher. The student must present the coach a pass to be allowed back into practice which is a notification from the teacher of the status of the student's grade(s) or work completed. It is best practice for the student to communicate they will be late due to working with a teacher prior to the start of practice.

B. **Procedure for being removed from the ineligibility list:** To be removed from the ineligibility list, the student must go to their instructors and have the instructor indicate their current grade, and sign the ineligibility list removal form. Students can remove themselves from the ineligibility list when they have fewer than two failing grades in their classes and have a signed ineligibility list form submitted. **To be removed from the ineligibility list for the remainder of the week the student must have the form signed and submitted to the activities director or designee.** The student is responsible for setting up the times to meet with his/her instructors and for following through on the appointments that are made.

C. The eligibility list will not be used as a disciplinary tool.

II. The activities that a student may be declared ineligible for are the following:

1. NSAA sponsored or sanctioned activity.
2. All other school sponsored activities including, but not inclusive to band, choir, FFA, FCCLA, quiz bowl, scholastic contest, speech and drama, Destination Imagination, and junior high activities, excluding music and FFA when the activity is part of the classroom grade. The music and FFA sponsors will clarify

for students in writing what activities are covered by the eligibility policy. III. Activities: Students who will be absent from school for an activity must get the assignments that will be missed prior to leaving for the activity.

1. Procedure: Each activity sponsor will be responsible to give his/her students the activity forms which must be filled out and signed by all the student's instructors.
2. The student must return these forms to his/her sponsor signed by all instructors or, he/she will not be allowed to go to the activity.

IV. Participants in any activity must have good attendance and should never be truant from classes. Students may not practice or participate in any activity if they have an unexcused

absence during the school day. Students may participate in a school related activity or practice so long as the absence was excused by 3:00 p.m. that day. However, students who are absent due to illness during periods 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 or the two periods prior to departure, may not practice, participate in an activity that day or travel to participate in the activity.

School Dances

A school sponsored dance is a school activity subject to all provisions of the Student Activity Code, and is a privilege available to students meeting all requirements for participation.

General Rules of Student Conduct at Dances

In addition to all rules of student conduct in the Student handbook, students attending dances shall adhere to the following rules of conduct:

1. Who Can Attend: Only students of Bayard Public Schools and their guests may attend.

a. Students currently attending Bayard High School or another Nebraska high school who have not been restricted from attending extracurricular activities at Bayard High School or their own school are generally considered appropriate dates or invited guests.

b. Persons who are younger than Freshman or older than 20 years of age and not attending high school are generally considered to not be appropriate dates or invited guests for our school dances.

c. When attending school-sponsored dances, students may dress casually, unless otherwise designated: however, muscle shirts, etc. are not acceptable attire. Students that elect to leave the dance, once it has started, will not be allowed to return. School sponsored dances will be under the supervision of school employees or activity sponsors. Students that wish to bring dates from outside the Bayard School system may do so but must obtain permission from the principal. Students attending high school dances shall be no younger than a high school freshman or not above the age of 20. **This applies to students from other schools as well as from Bayard. Persons who are not regularly enrolled in a high school or graduates of high school will not be approved by the principal.**

d. Some school dances may be restricted to students attending specified grades levels at Bayard Public Schools. For any dances at the middle school level, only students attending Bayard Public Schools in the grade(s) for which the dance is being held may attend.

e. Students who have been suspended from school or from extracurricular activities may not attend.

f. The school reserves the right to exclude persons who may or do cause a disruption or detract from the event. Dates or invited guests not attending our school are expected to follow the same rules of conduct which apply to our students.

g. Rules for dances may restrict students and their guests from leaving dance until the dance ends without written parental permission on a form provided.

h. Students or their guests who engage in inappropriate behavior, whether on or off of the dance floor, may be asked to leave.

2. Prohibited Substances: Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and tobacco are prohibited. Anyone using these or showing the effects of use will not be allowed admission or, if discovered after admission, be removed from the dance. Their parents may be contacted.

Students and their dates may be required to submit to a Breathalyzer prior to gaining entrance.

Those who choose not to submit to a Breathalyzer will not gain entrance. Law enforcement will be contacted if there is reasonable suspicion that the student or a student's date is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

3. Appropriate Attire: Students and their guests must meet the dress code requirements established for each dance. Teachers or administrators will make the final decision as to whether or not a student's attire is appropriate. Students will be asked to change unacceptable items, which may mean that the student may have to return home to change the inappropriate clothing. It is advisable to check in advance of the dance with the Principal or staff sponsor for the event if you are uncertain about your attire.

Eligibility for Selection as Royalty

Nomination and selection as royalty for school sponsored dances is an honor awarded by students to those of their peers that exemplify the highest standards of integrity and achievement. Students nominated for dance royalty must have demonstrated through their conduct, academic achievement and activities that they have represented, and will represent, themselves, their classmates, and their school in a manner which reflects outstanding effort, commitment to their school and fellow students, and integrity and good citizenship in the school and in the community. The students selected to be the "royalty" for the Homecoming and Prom or any other school sponsored dance or activity shall meet that general standard as determined by the administration.

PROM

A Prom may be permitted with the following reservations:

1. Decorations must be modest in scope and expense, and the plan approved by the High School Principal in advance.

2. All decorations must be acceptable for the location and approved by the location being used.

3. The prom shall be open to Bayard High School students and their dates. 4. Students attending prom shall be no younger than a high school freshman or no older than 20 years of age.

5. The prom shall be held within the Bayard Public School facilities or a different site with approval by the Administration. The request should be made sixty days prior to the prom.

ROYALTY

HOMEcoming ROYALTY

Boys' fall sports teams nominate five senior girls for this honor that are a member of a girls' fall sports team or cheer squad in good standing. The girls' fall sports teams nominate five senior boys who are a member of a fall boys' sports team in good standing. The king and queen are then chosen by secret vote of the entire student body, ninth through twelfth grades inclusive. Crowning is done following the Homecoming football game.

WINTER ROYALTY

FFA, FCCLA, NHS, Spanish Club, Student Council, Speech Team, Quiz Bowl, One Act, DI, boys' winter sports teams, and girls' winter sports teams each nominate one senior boy and one senior girl candidate in good standing. The king and queen are then chosen by secret vote of the entire student body, ninth through twelfth grades inclusive.

PROM ROYALTY

The juniors nominate five senior boys and five senior girls for king and queen. The king and queen are then chosen by secret vote of the juniors and seniors. They are crowned during the dance.

Social Media of Parents, Students, and Coaches/Sponsors guidelines

We want social media to be a positive experience for all parents/guardians, students, and coaches personally and also as part of the school community.

You can help by:

- Promoting safe, respectful, and responsible use of social media.
- Protecting the reputation of students, school, teams, and programs.
- Ensuring alignment with school policies and sportsmanship standards.
- Supporting positive digital citizenship in all online interactions.

For Parents/Guardians (Why It Matters:)

- Social media is an extension of your child's school, team, and community presence.
- One post can impact college admissions, scholarships, or team eligibility.

Tips for Parents:

1. Stay Informed: Know what platforms your child uses (Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, etc.).
2. Monitor and Discuss: Review their public profiles and follow their accounts when appropriate.
3. Talk About Digital Footprint: Help them understand that online content can last forever.
4. Encourage Positivity: Promote the idea of uplifting others and supporting teammates

online.

5. Report Misuse: If you see cyberbullying or inappropriate content, notify school staff or coaches.

For Students (Responsibilities:)

- Represent yourself, your team, and your school with integrity.
- Treat social media as a public forum—what you post can be seen by coaches, colleges, and employers.
- Follow the same rules online as you would in person: No harassment, bullying, or discrimination.

Think Before You Post:

Ask yourself:

- Would I say this in front of my coach/teacher/parent?
- Could this embarrass or harm someone?
- Could this affect my eligibility, any scholarship, or other opportunities?

Do's and Don'ts:



Do



Don't

Share team achievements

Post insults or threats

Promote school events

Reveal private info

Use respectful language

Use vulgar/explicit content

Follow team/school dress codes in photos Tag or share locations in real-time

Relationships between Parents and Coaches/Sponsors

Both parenting and coaching are very difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding

between coaches and parents, both are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a more positive experience for everyone.

Parents have the right to know the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches and sponsors have the right to know that if parents have a concern, they will discuss it with the coach at the appropriate time and place.

Parents' Role in Interscholastic Athletics and

Other Extracurricular Activities

Communicating with your children

- Make sure that your children know that win or lose, scared or heroic, you love them,
- appreciate their efforts and are not disappointed in them. This will allow them to do their
- best without fear of failure. Be the person in their life they can look to for constant
- positive reinforcement.
- Try your best to be completely honest about your child's athletic ability, competitive
- attitude, sportsmanship and actual skill level.
- Be helpful but don't coach them. It's tough not to, but it is a lot tougher for the child to be
- flooded with advice and critical instruction.
- Teach them to enjoy the thrill of competition, to be "out there trying," to be working to
- improve their skills and attitudes. Help them develop the feeling for competing, for trying
- hard, for having fun.
- Try not to relive your athletic life through your child in a way that creates pressure. If
- they are comfortable with you win or lose, then they are on their way to maximum ○ enjoyment.
- Don't compete with the coach. If your child is receiving mixed messages from two ○ different authority figures, he or she will likely become disenchanted. ○ Don't compare the skill, courage, or attitude of your child with other members of the ○ team.
- Get to know the coach(es). Then you can be assured that his or her philosophy, attitudes,
- ethics, and knowledge are such that you are happy to have your child under his or her
- leadership.

■ Always remember that children tend to exaggerate, both when praised and when criticized. Temper your reaction and investigate before overreacting.

Communicating with the coach

- Communication you should expect from your child's coach includes:
- Philosophy of the coach
- Expectations the coach has for your child
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements
- Procedure should your child be injured
- Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation
- Communication coaches expect from parents
- Concerns expressed directly to the coach

- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations
- Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:
- The treatment of your child, mentally, and physically
- Ways to help your child improve
- Concerns about your child's behavior
- Injuries or health concerns. Report injuries to the coach immediately!! Tell the coach about any health concerns that may make it necessary to limit your child's participation or require assistance of trainers. Students are sometimes unwilling to tell coaches when they are injured, so please make sure the coach is told.

Appropriate procedures for discussing concerns with the coaches:

- 1.) The chain of command is an integral part of our system. The following is the chain of command students, athletes, and parents will follow when wanting to address concerns with coaches/activities sponsors.
 - a.) Student talks to the coach about concerns.
 - b.) Student talks to the AD about concerns.
 - c.) The parent calls to set up an appointment with the coach.
 - d.) The parent calls to set up an appointment with the AD, coach, parent, student involved, and other administrators if necessary to discuss the situation.

Follow the chain of command to help ensure a positive resolution for all concerned after the 24-hour time frame. Do not confront a coach before or after a contest or practice as these can be emotional times for all parties involved and do not promote resolution.

- 2.) The 24 rule will be followed. All contact between coaches, players, and parents with concerns will occur at least 24 hours after the concern. Do not confront a coach before, during, or after a contest or practice as these can be emotional times for all parties involved and will not promote resolution.
- 3.) What should a parent player do if they feel a resolution has not been accomplished after the chain of command has been exhausted?

Set up a meeting with the superintendent, parent, and student to discuss concerns. If more action is needed this will be discussed at that meeting.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student-athletes (except for reporting activity code violations)

Section 8 Good Sportsmanship—Behavior Expectations of Spectators Good sportsmanship is expected to be exhibited by all coaches, sponsors, students, parents and other spectators. The

school can be punished by NSAA for a lack of good sportsmanship at NSAA sanctioned events. More importantly, activities are more enjoyable for the students when good sportsmanship is displayed. Responsibilities of Spectators Attending

Interscholastic Athletics and Other Extracurricular Activities

1. Show interest in the contest by enthusiastically cheering and applauding the performance of both teams.
2. Show proper respect for opening ceremonies by standing at attention and remaining silent when the National Anthem is played.
3. Understand that a ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally attack others, or to be obnoxious. Maintain self-control.
4. Do not “boo,” stamp feet or make disrespectful remarks toward players or officials.
5. Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
6. Know that noisemakers of any kind are not proper for indoor events.
7. Obey and respect officials and faculty supervisors who are responsible for keeping order. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
8. Stay off the playing area at all times.
9. Do not disturb others by throwing material onto the playing area.
10. Show respect for officials, coaches, cheerleaders from other schools and student-athletes.
11. Pay attention to the half-time program and do not disturb those who are watching.
12. Respect public property by not damaging the equipment or the facility.
13. Know that the school officials reserve the right to refuse attendance of individuals whose conduct is not proper.
14. Refrain from the use of alcohol and drugs on the site of the contest.
15. **PLEASE BE AN ATHLETE OR FAN!!!!**

ACTIVITY PAGES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

Each Activity sponsor is encouraged to work with the web page coordinator to maintain a webpage containing activity-appropriate and relevant information such as contact information, parent meeting materials, handbooks for the activity, student/parent expectations, links to the school activity calendar(s), and requirements for earning a letter in the activity. Posting of student information, student work, and images of students must be approved through the activity director and must be in accordance with board policy and any state and federal regulations.

Notification of Rights under FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Bayard Public Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child’s education records. However, Bayard Public Schools may disclose appropriately designated “directory information” without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow Bayard Public Schools to include this type of information from your child’s education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student’s role in a drama production;

- The annual yearbook
- Honor roll or other recognition lists
- Graduation programs
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members ■

School's Website, Tiger TV, and newspapers (sports pages for example) Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories – names, addresses and telephone listing – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent. If you do not want Bayard Public Schools to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing within two (2) weeks of enrollment. Bayard Public

Schools have designated the following information as directory information: Student's name

Participation in officially recognized activities and sports

Address

Telephone listing

Weight and height of members of athletic teams

Electronic mail address

Photograph

Degrees, honors, and awards received

Date and place of birth

Major field of study

Dates of attendance

Grade level

Most recent educational agency or institution attended

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the school district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the

student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

NEBRASKA STATE ACTIVITY ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY

IN ORDER TO REPRESENT A NEBRASKA HIGH SCHOOL IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES COMPETITION, A STUDENT MUST ABIDE BY ELIGIBILITY RULES OF

THE NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION. A SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR RULES IS GIVEN BELOW. CONTACT THE PRINCIPAL OR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR FOR AN EXPLANATION OF THE COMPLETE RULE.

2.2.1 Student must be an undergraduate.

2.2.2 After a student's initial enrollment in grade nine, he/she shall be ineligible after eight semesters of school membership beginning with his/her enrollment in grade nine.

2.3 Student is ineligible if nineteen years of age before August 1 of current school year. (Student in grades 7 or 8 may participate on a high school team if he/she was 15 years of age prior to August 1 of current school year.)

2.4.1 Student must be enrolled in some high school on or before the eleventh school day of the current semester.

2.5.1 Student must be enrolled in at least twenty hours per week and regular in attendance, in accordance with the school's attendance policy at the school he/she wishes to represent in interscholastic competition.

2.5.2 Student must have been enrolled and received twenty hours credit in school the **immediate preceding semester**.

2.6.2.1 Guardianship does not fulfill the definition of a parent. If a guardian has been appointed for a student, the student is eligible in the school district where his/her natural parent(s) have their domicile. Individual situations involving guardianship may be submitted to the Executive Director for review and a ruling.

2.6.3 A student entering grade nine for the first time after being promoted from grade eight of a two-year junior high, or a three-year middle school, or entering a high school for the first time after being promoted to grade ten from a three-year junior high school is eligible. After a student makes an initial choice of high schools any subsequent transfer, unless there has been a change of domicile by his/her parents, shall render the student ineligible for ninety school days.

If a student has participated on a high school team at any level as a seventh, eighth, or ninth grade student, he/she has established his/her eligibility at the high school where he/she participated. If the student elects

to attend another high school upon entering ninth or tenth grade, he/she shall be ineligible for ninety school days.

Student eligibility related to domicile can be attained in the following manners:

2.6.9.1 If the change in domicile by the parents occurs during a school year, the student may remain at the school he/she is attending and be eligible until the end of the school year or transfer to a high school located in the school district where the parents established their domicile and be eligible.

2.6.9.2 If the parents moved during the summer months and the student is in grade twelve and the student has attended the high school for two or more years, the student may remain at the high school he/she has been attending and retain eligibility.

2.6.9.3 If a student has been attending the same high school since initial enrollment in grade nine, he/she may remain at that high school and retain eligibility, or he/she is eligible at a high school located in the school district where his/her parents established their domicile.

2.6.10 If the parents of a student change their domicile from one school district that has a high school to another school district that has a high school, the student shall be eligible immediately in the school district where the parents established their domicile.

2.7.7 Transfer students who have their Enrollment Option applications signed and filed prior to March 15 shall be eligible immediately in the fall. Those students who do not have their Enrollment Option applications signed and filed prior to March 15 shall be ineligible for ninety school days, with such transfers being subject to hardship waiver guidelines.

2.7.8 Other non-enrollment option transfer students must have signed and delivered all forms necessary to make such transfer to the school in which he/she intends to enroll for the 2017-2018 school year prior to March 15, 2016 for the student to be eligible, the school to which the transfer is being made must have notified the NSAA office via an NSAA online entry form, no later than March 15, 2016. The student would, however, become ineligible for ninety school days the next fall if the student were to change his/her mind and decide not to transfer. If such student were to transfer to the new school, but later decides to return to his/her former district before 90 school days have elapsed, such student will be ineligible in the former district for 90 school days, with the ineligibility period commencing at the start of the fall semester. Those students, who did not have their enrollment forms signed, delivered and accepted prior to March 15, 2016, shall be ineligible for ninety school days, with such transfers being subject to hardship waiver guidelines.

3.5 / 3.1 Once the season of a sport begins, a student shall participate in practices and compete only in athletic contests/meets in that sport, which are scheduled by his/her school. Any other competition will render the student ineligible for a portion of, or all of, the season in that sport. The season of a sport begins with the first date of practice as permitted by NSAA rules. The fall sports season begins August 15, 2016, (August 8th for most football, girls golf, boys tennis and softball teams) and ends with the state meets in the fall sports. The winter sports season begins November 14, 2016, and ends with the state meets in the winter sports. The spring sports season begins February 27, 2016 and ends with the state meets in the spring sports.

3.5.1 During the season of a particular sport, athletes participating in that sport for a high school may attend, but may not physically take part, either as an individual or as a member of a team, in the sport activity in which instruction is being offered in the clinic, camp or school. *(Refer to 3.5.1.1 for exception in Swimming & Diving.)

3.6 A student shall not participate on an all-star team while a high school undergraduate. **3.7** A student must maintain his/her amateur status.

NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULES WILL PREVENT YOUR TEAM, SCHOOL OR COMMUNITY FROM BEING
PENALIZED

Students must meet the following requirements before they will begin practice:

- a. Successfully complete a physical examination, which must be returned to the Principal's Office.
- b. The student/athlete or his/her parents must pay for the personal physical *and turn in a physical form to the High School office.*
- c. Return to the Principal's Office the forms attached to this handbook or the Student-Parent Handbook the sheet found attached to this Handbook, which includes:
 1. Parental/Guardian permission to participate in approved sports.
 2. Parental/Guardian agreement to Athletic Guidelines.
 3. Parental/Guardian permission for trips and the securing of medical aid.
 4. Parental/Guardian signature regarding athletic insurance
 5. Warning statement.
 6. Athletes agreement to Athletic Guidelines.

II. No practice or School Activity VARSITY OR NON VARSITY will be scheduled on Sundays unless a CONFERENCE, district or state contest is scheduled on the following Monday, and permission has been approved by the activities director.

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III. If an athlete suffers an INJURY which requires a doctor's attention, he/she must have a WRITTEN medical release from examining doctor before being permitted to resume practicing or participating in any athletic contest.

IV. All athletes are expected to attend all contests and practice sessions unless excused by the Head Coach.

V. At no time should an athlete wear equipment checked out to him except for practices and contests.

VI. *Parents/Guardians must attend the Concussion Training and Coaches' Meetings before the student can practice for a support.*

"Team Selection" and "Playing Time"

"Team selection" and "playing time" decisions are the responsibility of the individual coach or sponsor of the activity. Consistent, however, with the purposes of the activities program, the coaches and sponsors shall follow the following established guidelines for team selection and playing time decisions, along with such other guidelines as each individual coach and sponsor may develop which are not inconsistent with these established guidelines:

1. School Representative. Student participants must demonstrate that they can and will represent themselves and their school in a manner which reflects the development of high ideals and appropriate values, which shall include good citizenship in the school and in the community.
2. Success. Student participants must demonstrate that they can make the activity program more successful, both from a standpoint of competitive success and success in promoting a positive school spirit. Characteristics for purposes of these criteria include the student's: (1) talent or skill, (2) desire to improve the student's own skills or talents as well as those of others in the activity, and (3)

attitude of respect towards teammates, the coach, the school, and the community.

The NSAA has adopted a 5-day moratorium in December During these 5 days, the following rules are to be followed by all levels of activities: • All high school facilities will be locked down and no athletes will be allowed in for any reasons, including watching film, shooting around, or conditioning. • There shall be no attempt, on or off school premises, by any member of the coaching staff or a volunteer/parent to hold a competition or practice involving any age-level of athlete.

BAYARD SCHOOL SONG

We're here to boost you, Bayard High, here's to you.

The school we love the best of all.

Our colors proudly waving never fall,

We'll carry on and fight, fight, fight, forever more.

And when the victory you have won again, We
will salute your loyal men.

We'll rally 'round your colors, Bayard High,

And always FIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT.