Sartartia Middle School Cheerleader

Grades, Conduct, Discipline & Demerit Policy

2013-2014

Please note that the “Sartartia Middle School Cheerleader Grades, Conduct, Discipline & Demerit Policy” is a 24 hour a day, 7 days a week contract. The information listed below not only applies to your time at school, but outside of school too. If you make the squad, you are first and always a representative of Sartartia Middle School and expected to behave in a manner fitting of this honorable title.

**Suspension from the Squad for Grades will be Determined By The Following:**

Using 9 week grades earned in all subjects, under current regulations, a student must pass all classes during a 9 weeks period to be eligible for extracurricular activities for the following 3 week period.

 The following rules of conduct for participants in FBISD school-sponsored extracurricular activities apply 24 hours a day, seven days per week, and fifty-two weeks per year:

**Loss of privilege for one calendar year, then permanent removal for second offense**

Selling or delivering marijuana, alcohol, a controlled substance, a dangerous drug, abuseable glue, aerosol paint, or any other mood-changing, mind altering, or behavior affecting drug is strictly prohibited and will result in elimination from further participation in all extracurricular activities for:

**1st Offense**, one calendar year.

**2nd offense**, for the remainder of the student’s school career.

**Other Removals**

The following other infractions are strictly prohibited:

Using, possessing, or being under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, a dangerous drug, abuseable glue, aerosol paint, or any other mood-changing, mind altering, or behavior affecting drug;

Possessing, using or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage;

Theft or stealing;

Engaging in lewd, disruptive, or other offensive conduct that affronts school district standards of propriety.

Any violation of school conduct code that results in reassignment to the FBISD Behavioral Learning Center.

Upon the administration’s determination that a FBISD student participating in a school-sponsored extracurricular activity or organization has violated any one of the four infractions enumerated above, at **Other Removals**, the student shall lose the privilege of further participation in that organization or activity as provided below:

**1st Offense**: **10** hours of approved community service and **20** school days of suspension from active participation in any/all FBISD extracurricular activities. If the offense occurs when the student is not actively participating, the suspension shall apply beginning with the next period of participation following the offense. If the student is involved in more than one activity, the suspension shall apply to all activities concurrently. The student shall not serve more than one 20-day suspension for the first offense.

**2nd Offense**: **20** hours of approved community service and **40** school days of suspension from active participation in any/all FBISD extracurricular activity. If the offense occurs when the student is not actively participating, the suspension shall apply beginning with the next period of participation following the offense. If the student is involved in more than one activity, the suspension shall apply to all activities concurrently. The student shall not serve more than one 40-day suspension for the second offense.

**3rd Offense**: the student shall be suspended from further participation for one calendar year.

**4th Offense**: the student shall be eliminated from further participation in all activities for the remainder of his/her school career.

A student may be referred to counselors, as appropriate. A student or parent may appeal the student’s loss of extracurricular privileges through FBISD Board Policy FNG.

**CUMULATIVE 20 POINT DEMERIT SYSTEM**

**A. DEMERIT RECORD**

1. The record will be established for all cheerleaders.

2. The record will record infractions for the entire school year from day of tryouts to May of following year.

3. Demerits cannot be worked off or retracted.

4. The record will be maintained solely by the sponsor/cheer coach and must be kept confidential.

5. A cheerleader may view his/her own record.

6. When a demerit is recorded on the record, both the sponsor and cheerleader will initial the entry.

7. When a cheerleader receives a total of 5 demerits, the sponsor will personally counsel with the cheerleader.

**10 CUMULATIVE DEMERITS = NOTICE**

When a cheerleader reaches a total of 10 demerits, the cheerleader will be placed on notice and the sponsor will notify the cheerleader andhis/herparent/guardian.

The notice status will be documented in writing by the sponsor and signed by the principal. The notice statement will be mailed to the parent or guardian.

**15 CUMULATIVE DEMERITS=SUSPENSION**

When a cheerleader reaches a total of 15 demerits, he/she will be suspended for a 3-week period. The cheerleader is prohibited from performance activities and wearing uniforms. They will continue to practice.

The suspension status will require the sponsor to meet with the cheerleader and his/her parents with a campus administrator present. The suspension will continue until the meeting takes place.

**20 CUMULATIVE DEMERITS = DISMISSAL FROM SQUAD**

If a cheerleader accumulates 20 demerits, the cheerleader will be dismissed from the cheer squad. A written notice and copy of the demerit record will be prepared by the sponsor/coach and signed by both the sponsor/coach and principal. A copy of the notice will be mailed to the student’s parent or guardian, with a copy sent to the District’s athletic director.

**ADDITIONAL DISCIPLINE**

In addition to demerits issued for infractions, the sponsors/coaches may administer additional discipline, such as running laps, additional cheer duties, such as sign making, water bottle duty, cheer can duty, or others as deemed necessary.

The following behaviors are prohibited while on campus, or while participating in or attending school activities, or at any time while wearing a cheerleader uniform:

Smoking or possessing tobacco products

Use of undesirable language or unacceptable behavior; i.e., cheating, fighting

Defacing of school property

Receiving a “U” in conduct

A cheerleader will be subject to a 5-school day suspension from the squad for a first offense, a 10-school day suspension for a second offense, and dismissal from the squad for the remainder of the school year if found guilty of a third offense.

**DEMERITS ISSUED FOR THE FOLLOWING INFRACTIONS**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **INFRACTIONS** |  Demerits |  |  |
| SMOKING |  | 10/ | Offense |
| ISS (In-School Suspension) |  | 4/ | Day |
| AFTER SCHOOL / SATURDAY DETENTION \*Maximum 4/Occurance |  | 2/ | Day |
| N in conduct on progress report or report card |  | 4/ | N  |
| DISRESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR TOWARDS ANY ADULT (EVEPARENTS) IN FRONT OF COACHES OR OTHER SCHOOL OFFICIALS AT SCHOOL EVENTS. OR NEGATIVE REPORT FROM TEACHERS FOR ANY REASON.  |  | 1-5/ | Offense |
| UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT TO SQUAD MEMBERS / OTHER STUDENTS |  | 3/ | Offense |
| USE OF PROFANITY |  | 5/ | Offense |
| UNEXCUSED ABSENCE-avoidable absences  |  | 5/ | Offense |
| EXCUSED ABSENCES \*Demerits issued beginning 3rd - excused absences include doctor appointments, illness, and other school sponsored activities. You get three “free excused absences” demerits don’t start till after 3rd one. |  | 3/ | Absence\* |
| TARDIES \*3 tardies = unexcused absence |  | 3/ | Offense\* |
| INAPPROPRIATE DRESS (Dress code infractions at school) |  | 3/ | Offense |
| UNIFORM INFRACTIONS (examples listed later in this document) |  | 1/ | Offense |
| STUNTING WITHOUT SPONSOR/COACH APPROVAL |  | 5/ | Offense |
| INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR |  | 5/ | Offense |
| **\*** ZAPS – Each Uncleared ZAP 1 demerit |  | 1/ | Offense |
|  |  | 1/ | Offense |

In addition to discipline consequences available under the Fort Bend ISD Discipline Management Plan, demerits may be issued for the infractions listed above and below. An assessment of demerits does not supersede or replace the discipline consequences available under the Fort Bend ISD Discipline Management Plan.

**Demerits Will Be Issued For the Following Infractions and will be Cumulative per School Year:**

Getting a “U” on a progress report or report card = 10 demerits (automatic 5 school-day suspension for 1st offense, or 10 school-day suspension for 2nd offense)

Getting an “N” on a progress report or report card = 4 demerits per “N”

Smoking or use of or possession of any tobacco product = 10 demerits (automatic 5 (1st offense) or 10 (2nd offense) school day suspension)

Any violation of school conduct code that results in suspension from school (Out of School Suspension) = 10 demerits (automatic 5 (1st offense) or 10 (2nd offense) school day suspension)

 If the suspension involves drugs or alcohol it will result in more severe penalties detailed below.

**Insubordination**

 **All cheerleaders are expected to display leadership qualities in attitude, behavior, sportsmanship, and school spirit. (This includes, but is not limited to, refusing to comply with request and/or ignoring or refusing to acknowledge an adult attempting to question or redirect the cheerleader).**

 Refusing to perform a cheer or chant (5 demerits)

 Refusing to perform other duties as assigned by one of the sponsors (5 demerits)

 Refusing to participate in spirit days/uniform dress or outfit as proposed by the sponsors (5 demerits)

 Disrespect to school official, classroom teacher, administrator, counselor, custodian, paraprofessional or any other adult (including parents) on school grounds or in front of sponsors = 5 demerits per occurrence

 Report of misconduct by teachers or other school faculty/staff - minor misconduct such as excessive talking, horseplay, etc = 2 demerits per occurrence; major misconduct such as name calling, teasing, talking back, etc = 5 demerits per occurrence (if misconduct results in a write-up which results in suspension or I.S.S. the demerits and penalties listed previously in this document will apply)

 **Inappropriate Behavior/Behavior Not Becoming of a school representative**

 Public Display of Affection (PDA) = 5 demerits

 Cheating = 10 demerits (automatic 5 school day suspension from cheering)

 Fighting = 10 demerits (automatic 5 school day suspension)

Distractions during games, pep rallies, or other events where you are representing the school as a student and/or cheerleader (This includes talking instead of cheering and breaking formation unnecessarily = 2 demerits per occurrence

 Rude and/or degrading behavior or language towards another person = 5 Demerits per occurrence

 Unsportsman-like conduct to squad members or other students = 3 demerits per occurrence

 Use of profanity = 5 demerits per occurrence

 **Absences**

Unexcused Absences = 5 demerits per occurrence

 An unexcused absence is the failure to attend any scheduled cheerleading activity (sample listing below) without prior and proper permission from Mrs. Lundstrom. Any outside activity, including a job, should not be a reason for missing a scheduled cheerleading activity. Vacations should be scheduled around summer practices and camps. Cheerleading is a team sport and requires all cheerleaders to be present.

 After school practices

 Summer practices

 Cheer camp

 Games

 Pep Rallies

 Cheerleading fundraisers

 Cheerleading Community projects

 Leaving early without approval

 10 minutes or more late

 Excused Absences= 3 demerits per occurrence (after the first 3)

 Each cheerleader is permitted 3 excused absences per school year (tryouts to May of the following year). Any cheerleader who has 4 or more excused absences would accrue 3 demerits per absence for each absence beginning with the 4th absence. Cheerleading is a team sport and requires all cheerleaders to be present. An excused absence is defined as follows:

 School related activity- written 48-hour notification to Mrs. Lundstrom signed by the teacher sponsoring the activity or communicated via email.

 Religious Holiday- 48-Hour written notification to Mrs. Lundstrom signed by parent/guardian

 Family death- verbal communication**\*\*** to Mrs. Lundstrom from parent/guardian

 Illness- verbal communication**\*\*** to Mrs. Lundstrom from the parent/guardian, even if the child is not in school. If a cheerleader does not feel well enough to participate, Mrs. Lundstrom has the discretion to send the child home under an excused absence.

 Dr. Appointments- written 48-Hour notification to Mrs. Lundstrom signed by parent/guardian

**\*\*Verbal Communication**- **may** **consist** of personal communication, voice mail, e-mail, text message or notice to Mrs. Lundstrom via front office personnel or other school officials. It **does not consist** of other cheerleaders telling one of the sponsors.

 **Tardies**

Any cheerleader 5-10 minutes late to any cheerleading activity will receive 2 demerits per occurrence. Three tardies will be considered an unexcused absence.

 After 10 minutes late, the cheerleader would be considered absent and be issued an unexcused absence, even if he/she arrives after the 10 minutes.

 **Telling a fellow cheerleader** to inform the sponsor that you will be tardy **does not excuse** you from the tardy.

 3 late occurrences= 1 unexcused absence (4 demerits)

 **Cheerleader Dress Code**

All cheerleaders should exhibit proper dress code when at practices, games, school-related events, or any other cheerleader activity. This includes when in practice uniforms or in cheerleading uniform. Please refer to the below listing; a violation of any of these rules listed below will result in demerits. Inappropriate Dress Code = 1 demerit per violation (not per day)

 Persistent violation of dress code will be viewed by sponsors and administrators as deliberate disobedience and will result in 5 demerits per violation beginning on the 3rd violation of the same dress code violation.

 No jeans or non-practice shorts worn to practice

 If practice is held during school hours (8:00am -4:10 pm) all practice shorts should have appropriate length bikers beneath shorts

 No work out tops, sports bras, or other tops designed to expose midriff

 No t-shirts tied tightly to expose midriff

 No “rolling” of practice shorts that result in exposure of buttocks

 No midriff shirts

 No spaghetti strap shirts

 No jewelry of any kind, on wrists or necks, not even bracelets made of cloth or plastic

 No body piercing (one small earring in each ear is acceptable – sponsor reserves the right to require the cheerleader to remove earrings for safety/stunting reasons)

 No body art, tattoos, or **writing on body with ink, markers,** etc.

 No odd/unnatural hair color

 No eating unless approved by the coach

 No drinking anything, other than water, unless approved by the coach

 No gum chewing (not even after school or outside)

 No finger nail polish (other than clear, you will remove it and still be given demerits)

 No long finger nails

 No dirty practice or cheer uniforms/or shoes

 No cell phones allowed at practice or games.

 **If a cheerleader is missing any part of the assigned uniform, for the event he/she will not be allowed to wear any part of the uniform and will be required to sit out of the event. This includes the designated sports bra with clear bra-straps and correct colored bloomers.**  (Yes, people do notice these things.) Appropriate dress for a cheerleader at practice or games will be considered from the following:

 Camp outfit if assigned as a practice uniform

 Socks

 Designated Cheerleading Shoes

 Hair pulled away from face

 Neat and clean uniform- whether practice or cheerleading

 Assigned hair bow- when in cheerleading uniform

 Cheer shell and cheer skirt

 Appropriate bra to be worn under shell (regular bras will not be allowed-you will sit on the sidelines and not cheer.)

 Bloomers of designated color

 **Stunting and/or Tumbling without sponsor approval= 5 Demerits per occurrence**

For safety purposes, sponsors must approve all stunting in advance. No stunting will be permitted without one of the sponsors in attendance. No stunting will be approved until all cheerleaders involved in the stunt have been properly trained in stunting and stunting safety.

 For safety purposes, one of the sponsors must approve all tumbling in advance. No tumbling will be permitted without a sponsor in attendance. No tumbling will be approved until an individual cheerleader has been approved on each specific tumble without the use of a spotter.

 **Deadlines & Other Responsibilities= 1 demerit per Occurrence**

 Missing deadlines

 Failure to bring assigned materials (poms, signs, forms, cheer folder, etc)

 Any other responsibility assigned by coach, another cheer parent, and /or school official.

Sartartia Middle School Cheerleader

Grades, Conduct, Discipline & Demerit Policy

 I have read the contents of the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by the guidelines set forth in this document. If I violate the code of conduct or fail to meet the responsibilities assigned to me, I will accept my demerits and consequences with honesty and integrity.

Cheerleader’s Signature & Date:

 I have read the contents of the Code of Conduct and agree to encourage my child in to abide by the guidelines. I also agree to support the sponsors of the squad and the administrators of the school, should the need arise to assign demerits and/or the consequences laid out in the policy, in their efforts to promote a squad that will bring pride to our community.

Parent/Guardian Signature & Date:

 We agree to apply the Code of Conduct in a manner that is fair and consistent to the cheerleaders, while promoting an admirable reputation for the entire squad. We also pledge to inform the parents should the need arise for a suspension from the squad due to accumulation of demerits. (A copy of your child’s demerit sheet will be provided at any time, per your request.)

Sponsor Signature & Date: Isma Lundstrom 4/08/2013