

DEER PARK INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT



Fine Arts
Code of Conduct
2008-2009

DEER PARK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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DEER PARK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FINE ARTS CODE OF CONDUCT

STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS

The Deer Park Independent School District believes that being in the Fine Arts program is an honor demanding many responsibilities. It is a student's privilege, not a right.

The following are expectations for our fine arts students:

- Be intense performers always exhibiting good sportsmanship and courteous behavior
- Display positive leadership
- Aspire to the highest in moral and ethical values
- Conduct yourselves as ladies and gentlemen
- Show respect for others (faculty, students, and judges)
- Strive to obtain a quality education, keeping this as the primary reason for attending school
- Develop and exhibit school pride

As performers in the Deer Park Independent School District, students present an image that reflects the District to other schools and our school community. This image should be one of competence, sportsmanship, competitiveness and pride.

Participation in fine arts activities sponsored by the Deer Park Independent School District and the University Interscholastic League is a privilege, not a right. Therefore, all students taking part in the program shall conform to all rules contained within the Deer Park I.S.D. policies, the Student Code of Conduct, and the Fine Arts Code of Conduct. When any rules or laws are violated, on or off school premises, before, during, or after school hours, the administration or directors, at their sole discretion, shall have the right to deny the privilege of participating.

Directors are responsible for decisions affecting the programs they direct. Such decisions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Composition of the organization
- Schedules
- Performance opportunities for individual students
- Practice time (within the U.I.L. / TEA guidelines)
- Disciplinary action
- Awarding letters to participants
- Selection of individuals to be recognized for outstanding performance
- Other rules not contradictory to the Fine Arts Code of Conduct

FINE ARTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Fine Arts Advisory Council will be composed of the Director of Fine Arts, the organization's head director, a campus administrator, and another DPISD administrator. Its function will be to gather facts, interpret facts, and render a fair and just decision in matters of discipline. The Director of Fine Arts may convene the Fine Arts Advisory Council whenever he feels it is warranted or when the potential action taken could result in suspension or removal of a student from a performance or performing ensemble.

APPEALS

The Fine Arts Director's decision or a ruling made by the Fine Arts Advisory Council concerning a penalty assessed may be appealed by the complaint procedure outlined in the Student/Parent Handbook.

An appeal of a Fine Arts Director's decision or a ruling made by a Fine Arts Advisory Council shall be entered at Level 2 of the complaint procedure in the Student/Parent Handbook.

CONDUCT DURING PRACTICE AND PERFORMANCE

Students shall not use profanity or break competition rules. They should understand that both winning and losing are part of the performance experience. Exhibitions of temper, flagrant rule violations, taunting, and unsportsmanlike actions shall not be tolerated. Judges shall be respected and treated with courtesy. Any discussion of decisions made by officials shall be left to the directors.

Any behavior that is contrary to that specified in the Fine Arts Code of Conduct may result in removal from one or more performances and possible removal from the organization.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE AND GROOMING

As voluntary participants in the fine arts program, students in the Deer Park Independent School District shall meet and maintain certain acceptable grooming and personal appearance standards. In addition to upholding the standards established in the school districts dress code, fine arts performers shall set examples for the school and community in the area of grooming and personal appearance.

To be eligible to participate in fine arts performance or practice sessions, students shall adhere to the following rules:

1. Hair shall be clean, well groomed, and styled in a way that is not distracting or conspicuous.
2. Remain clean-shaven. Facial hair, including moustaches, beards, goatees, and extremely long side burns, is not allowed.
3. Be neatly dressed, including shoes and socks.
4. School issued or approved clothing shall be worn during contests or performances.
5. Male performers shall not wear earrings and/or similar body piercing items at school or at school activities.
6. Comply with all other school rules relating to dress and grooming as described in the dress code policy for students.

SUSPENSION OR REMOVAL FROM THE REGULAR SCHOOL SETTING

A fine arts performer who is suspended or removed from the regular school setting for any disciplinary reason under the Student Code of Conduct shall be ineligible to participate in all interscholastic activities during the periods of suspension or removal. A second suspension or removal during the same school year may result in removal from fine arts program for the remainder of the school year.

DISRESPECT TO TEACHER OR DIRECTOR

Any act of disrespect by a fine arts performer to a teacher, director, administrator, judge, or community member shall be addressed on an individual basis. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including without limitation, suspension from a performance and/or removal from the fine arts program for the remainder of the school year.

DISRESPECT TO FELLOW PERFORMERS

Any act of disrespect or hazing, by a fine arts participant to a fellow performer, shall be addressed on an individual basis. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including without limitation, suspension from a performance and/or removal from the fine arts program for the remainder of the school year.

USE OF TOBACCO

Deer Park I.S.D. is a tobacco-free district. Fine Arts performers are not permitted to use, on or off school premises, tobacco products, including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, snuff, or chewing tobacco. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including without limitation, suspension or removal from the fine arts program.

All infractions including tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or criminal activity, shall be referred to the District Fine Arts Advisory Council for review. Punishment will be assessed according to Deer Park I.S.D. policy, Student Code of Conduct and Fine Arts Code of Conduct.

DRUG OR ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS

Fine Arts students shall not possess, use, transmit or attempt to possess, use, or transmit, or be under the influence of any of the following substances on or off school premises:

1. Any controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by the Texas Controlled Substance Act, without regard to amount, including but not limited to, marijuana, any narcotic drug, hallucinogen, stimulant, depressant, amphetamine, or barbiturate.
2. Alcohol or any alcoholic beverage
3. Any abusive glue, aerosol paint, or any other chemical substance for inhalation
4. Any other intoxicant or mood-changing, mind-altering, or behavior-altering drug

If the administration, after a thorough investigation, has good reason to believe the student has participated in selling, giving, possessing, or being under the influence of abusive drugs (marijuana, narcotics, steroids, crack, cocaine, etc.), he/she shall be suspended from Fine Arts after school activities until guilt or innocence is determined. Sanctions for the prohibited conduct will be assessed notwithstanding any prosecution under the juvenile/criminal justice systems.

The Director of Fine Arts must be consulted when the following violations occur:

- Use of tobacco by a performer
- Use of an illegal drug
- Use of alcoholic beverage
- Any other such violations of which the director deems necessary to inform the Director of Fine Arts

PRACTICE

Practice is an essential part of the fine arts program and students are expected to participate except when injured or sick. During practice situations, participants shall:

1. Consult the director as far in advance as possible when absence is necessary.
2. Avoid using profanity.
3. Make every attempt to be a team member, not an individual.

CONDUCT RELATED TO INTERNET OR OTHER PUBLIC MEDIA DISTRIBUTION OR EXPOSURE

Students who participate in extracurricular activities may be suspended or removed from the activity if they engage in inappropriate conduct related to internet or other public media distribution or exposure.

- A student may be suspended or removed from participation if that student has knowingly and voluntarily allowed himself or herself to be photographed resulting in an image that is considered lewd by community standards or that depicts behavior that is sexually explicit or suggestive or illegal as determined by the administration, and that image becomes accessible to the public irrespective of the means by which it became accessible to the public.
- A student may be suspended or removed from participation if that student has an internet site, such as My Space or Face Book, that contains any images that are considered lewd by community standards or that depict any behavior that is sexually explicit or suggestive or illegal as determined by the administration.
- A student may be suspended or removed from participation if that student sends any text messages or images that are considered lewd by community standards or that depict any behavior that is sexually explicit or suggestive or illegal as determined by the administration.

THEFT

School equipment (instruments, audio recording equipment, and uniforms) is purchased for student use during practice and performance. Criminal theft or theft from other students, opponent schools, or Deer Park I.S.D. shall not be tolerated. Punishment will be decided on an individual basis and may result in suspension and/or removal from all fine arts activities for up to one calendar year from the date of the incident. Unauthorized use of Deer Park I.S.D. equipment on or off school premises at any time other than approved practices and competitions shall be considered a manifestation of theft of such equipment and punished as provided in the Student Code of Conduct and this Fine Arts Code of Conduct.

TRAVEL

Because fine arts students represent the community, parents, school, and directors, as well as themselves, proper conduct is expected on trips. Students shall dress in accordance to school policy and fine arts code requirements. Specific travel details are:

1. Be on time for all trips.
2. Dress neatly and in accordance to policy.
3. Be mannerly and courteous in restaurants and other public places.
4. Be quiet and orderly on the bus to avoid distractions to the driver.
5. Show respect for all performance facilities.
6. Travel with the organization when leaving and returning. In emergency situations and/or when permission is given by the director, the student may travel with a parent (parent signature required).

QUITTING

Any participant who quits a program after beginning shall:

1. Confer with the head director before terminating participation in a fine arts program.
2. Turn in all equipment that has been issued by the school.
3. Forfeit the right to an award for the fine arts program.
4. Have an opportunity to confer with Director of Fine Arts if desired.

ALLEGED FELONY CRIMES

Any student who has been referred for prosecution to the juvenile justice system based on alleged felony level delinquent conduct or charged with a felony in the criminal justice system shall not be allowed to practice and participate in fine arts performances.

If the prosecution is unconditionally dismissed or the student is found not guilty, then the student shall be readmitted to the fine arts program.

If the prosecution results in a disposition other than an unconditional dismissal or a finding of not guilty, then the student shall be removed from all fine arts after school activities for one calendar year from the date of the offense.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE ATTACHED NEXT PAGE TO YOUR DIRECTOR.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF POLICIES

I have read and understand the above Deer Park I.S.D. Student Fine Arts Code of Conduct and agree that I will abide by the Fine Arts Code of Conduct and all Deer Park I.S.D. policies.

Date

Signature of Fine Arts Student

I have read and understand the above Deer Park I.S.D. Student Fine Arts Code of Conduct and agree that I and my son/daughter will abide by the Fine Arts Code of Conduct and all Deer Park I.S.D. policies.

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian