

**Mt. Vernon ISD**  
**Extracurricular Handbook**



**2019 - 2020**

**Together We Will Achieve Excellence**

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## **Mission**

The **mission** of the Director of Athletics and Program Sponsors at Mount Vernon ISD is to provide all students an opportunity to participate in a highly competitive and comprehensive extracurricular program that will enhance learning through excellence, while developing character, integrity, responsibility and sportsmanship as indicators for success. MVISD offers a well-balanced, comprehensive extracurricular program consisting of, band, baseball, basketball, cheerleading, color guard, cross country, football, golf, power-lifting, soccer, softball, tennis, track and field, UIL academics, and volleyball are offered. This handbook has been designed to aid the coach/sponsor, students and parents in the knowledge of policies and procedures of the extracurricular program in MVISD, which will help us maintain this level of prestige among other districts. Each coach/sponsor is responsible for following the guideline handbook.

## **Extracurricular Code**

Students selected to a Mt. Vernon ISD extracurricular team must recognize this distinction as an honor and privilege and must be held accountable to a greater standard than that of the general school population. The students involved in extracurricular activities are recognized as representatives of the individual school as well as the district, and as such, must demonstrate the highest levels of character and behavior. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director and each coach/sponsor to ensure this high level of expectation. Coaches/sponsors must monitor the character and behavior of team members in and out of season, in and out of uniform, and on and off campus. The inordinate amount of time coaches/sponsors spend in various curricular and co-curricular activities provides a unique opportunity to observe, assist, and intercede to help the students make good decisions. MVISD supports education and awareness training on adolescent chemical use issues, including chemical dependency, substance abuse and special issues affecting district student athletes in a helpful, non-punitive way.

## **Extracurricular Departmental Objectives**

The Directors of Athletics and Program Directors/Sponsors are dedicated to MVISD being recognized as a premier extracurricular program in the state of Texas. In order to obtain this extraordinary level of competence in an incredibly competitive area, each person within the extracurricular program must demand excellence of himself/herself, as well as each individual for whom he/she is responsible.

Therefore, the Directors of Athletics and Program Directors/Sponsors are firmly committed to the following general objectives, which must be present in each activity and on every level, in order to continue in the pursuit of excellence for which our community has grown to expect.

- Increasing participation in all activities
- Including as many activities as possible to meet the needs of the students
- Providing adequate and equitable funding for all programs
- Affording all students the opportunity to try out for all activities
- Treating all students, parents, coaches/sponsors, district employees, opponents, and

- community supporters with dignity and respect
- Recruiting and hiring the best coaches/sponsors possible
- Encouraging continual development of coaches/sponsors
- Exhibiting outstanding sportsmanship in victory and defeat
- Developing lifelong skills needed in a competitive society
- Stressing the importance of excellence in the classroom, as well as in competition
- Fielding competitive teams in each category

### **Extracurricular Eligibility (No Pass. No Play)**

Students enrolled in extracurricular programs will be held to the U.I.L. No Pass, No Play standards. Grades shall be checked and monitored regularly, including the provision for students to use Grade Check reports at intervals specified by the coach or director/sponsor. At the end of each grading period the principal will publish the official Grade Report. A student failing a course will be ineligible to participate in accordance with current U.I.L. eligibility guidelines, *TEA & UIL Side by Side: Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities*, on-line at: <https://www.uiltexas.org/files/tea-uil-side-by-side-15-16.pdf>.

### **Extracurricular Attendance Procedures**

#### **A student absent from school may not play or participate on that day unless:**

- He/she attends school for a half day;
- An acceptable parent or doctor's excuse is submitted;
- The student is involved in a school activity; and
- The students' time in DAEP or ISS (if applicable) is completed.

*Example: One day of DAEP (Completion will be from 7:20 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. or upon the end of the school day for that campus.)*

After the student meets one of the four above options, the student must also get signed approval from all of the following:

- Athletic Director (if participating in athletics)
- Team coach, sponsor or director
- Campus Principal

Each coach, sponsor or director may establish attendance procedures in addition to those listed above. These procedures will be timely communicated to the parent and student.

### **Extracurricular Practice Procedures**

#### **Participant requirements prior to first practice**

- All eligibility requirements have been satisfied
- Completed physical examination form
- Completed emergency medical cards
- Completed parent-student responsibility acknowledgement forms
- Fees paid (if any)

- Parent and Student UIL Marching Band Acknowledgement Form

### **Practice Procedures**

- Practice sessions shall be scheduled so as to create a minimum amount of daily conflict with normal family activities and study time.
- Practice sessions should be well planned, well structured, and not to exceed the eight-hour rule set by UIL.
- Coaches and sponsors should be the first to arrive and the last to leave the practice sessions. At no time are students to practice without supervision.
- All equipment used in practice sessions shall be returned to its proper storage location at the end of each practice. The practice area must be clean and secured.
- Practice with the team or organization while assigned to ISS or DAEP is prohibited.

### **Restricted Practices**

#### **Early Dismissal of School or Emergency Closing**

In the event there is a scheduled early dismissal of school, practices may be held if the building principal has given permission.

#### **Extracurricular Conflicts with Other Activities**

Students participating in more than one activity could possibly have conflicts from time to time. Please notify the coaches/sponsors as soon as the conflict arises. The following order will be used to help settle these conflicts:

- State
- Regional Events
- Area
- Bi-District
- District
- Non-District
- Scrimmages
- Practice

#### **Extracurricular Code of Conduct**

A student involved in extracurricular activities in Mt. Vernon ISD could be subject to disciplinary action if he/she commits violations including, but not limited to, the following:

- Misuse of technology, including use of the Internet and social networks as follows:
  1. Send, post, or possess electronic messages that are obscene or sexually oriented, abusive, threatening, harassing or illegal
  2. Anything that would damage another's reputation, including cyberbullying and sexting, either on or off school property
- Falsification of a signature or information on any UIL required pre-participation form
- Theft or vandalism of any property

- Acts of unsportsmanlike conduct during the sport/activity season in which the student is involved including, but not limited to cheating, fighting, verbal abuse of officials, contestants, coaches or spectators, or foul language and obscene actions
- Acts of poor citizenship in the classroom or in the community, such as but not limited to disrespect of the teacher, the law, or other students
- Gambling in any form
- Violation of the dual participation policy
- Any act or acts deemed inappropriate in the Student Code of Conduct
- Conduct which requires placement in AEP or DAEP

## **Communications and Social Media**

Certain standards are necessary for the integrity and reputation of any organization. Each participant in extracurricular activities should be a leader within the school and should set a good example before the public at all times. Student participants are expected to set a good example for their classmates, be honest and truthful, show good sportsmanship, and show respect for the school, other team members, students, teachers, directors, and coaches at all times. Students engaging in inappropriate communications, including communications on social media, that do not uphold the standards and expectations of the MVISD extracurricular programs, may be subject to disciplinary actions by the coach, director, or sponsor. These actions may include benching from activities, practices, and competitions, and removal from teams or activities, at the discretion of the coach, director, or sponsor.

## **Grievances**

Grievances against coaches, sponsors or directors must follow the proper chain of command before the grievance will be discussed. Approaching the coach, principal, or superintendent regarding a grievance at a school event or non-related school event will not be tolerated or allowed. An appointment with the appropriate school official must be made to discuss any grievance. The proper chain of command is:

1. Coach, Sponsor or Director
2. Principal
3. Superintendent or designee

(See Board Policy DBGA [Local])

## **Extracurricular Transportation Policy/Procedure**

Policy FMF-AR (Local) states:

### **School Sponsored Trips in General**

Students who participate in school-sponsored trips shall be required to ride in transportation provided by the school to and from the event. Exceptions may be made in the following circumstances:

1. A student in prekindergarten–grade 6 may be allowed to ride home with a parent or other adult designated by the parent on the approved pick-up

list or if prior written request is submitted to the principal or designee.

2. A student in grades 7–12 may be allowed to ride home with a parent if the parent presents a written request to the coach or sponsor. A student shall only be permitted to ride home with another adult designated by the parent if the District travel release form is submitted to and approved by the principal or designee prior to the trip.

### **In-State Overnight Trips**

The superintendent shall have authority to approve in-state overnight trips by student organizations and other student groups. **Overnight travel will not be approved for trips than are within 90 miles of Mt. Vernon.**

### **Out-of-State Trips**

Any out-of-state trips by student organizations or other student groups shall require approval from the Superintendent.

### **Travel Release Procedure**

With coach, director or sponsor approval, students may be excused from riding from an event on school-authorized transportation. Extension of this privilege is at coach, director or sponsor discretion.

- The coach, director or sponsor will make available a sign-out procedure.
- Students will be released to the designated parent(s) or approved adult by the coach, director or sponsor.
- In no case will a student be allowed to ride home with another student.

### **Bus Procedure**

- The buses need to be left clean and litter free.
- Athletes are not to wear any type of spiked shoes on the bus.
- The emergency door will only be used in case of emergency unless instructed otherwise by the driver.

### **Extracurricular Traveling Procedure (Dress/Behavior)**

- All students are expected to dress appropriately and neatly for all events when representing Mt. Vernon Independent School District.
- All students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that represents the district in a positive manner
- All actions should not violate the Student Code of Conduct or Board policy.



## **Mandatory Drug Testing Policy**

The Mt. Vernon ISD requires drug testing of any student in grades 7–12 who chooses to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities or requests a permit to park a vehicle on school property. A student participating in these activities or requesting a parking permit shall be randomly tested throughout the school year. Students covered under the Mandatory Drug Testing Program include all students participating in school-sponsored extracurricular activities (UIL and non UIL), clubs, and any student driving on campus or requesting a parking permit. Random tests shall be conducted on as many as six dates throughout the school year.

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit, the student shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit.

### **REFUSAL TO TEST OR TAMPERING**

A student who refuses to be tested when selected or who is determined to have tampered with a sample shall be deemed to have a positive test result and shall be subject to the appropriate consequences depending on previous positive test results, if any.

### **CONFIRMATION OF POSITIVE RESULTS**

Upon receiving results of a positive drug test, the District shall schedule a meeting with the student, the student's parent if the student is under the age of 18, and the coach or sponsor of the extracurricular activity, as applicable, to review the test results and discuss consequences. The principal shall chair the meeting. The student or parent shall have three school days following the meeting to provide a medical explanation for a positive result. However, appropriate consequences shall begin immediately following the meeting with the parent or guardian.

### **RETESTING**

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or have a parking permit reinstated after any applicable consequences, the student must be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative test result; following that, the student shall be retested on the next 3 random test dates so long as the student wishes to participate in extracurricular activities or park a vehicle on school property.

***Parents & students must sign the release form granting consent for random drug testing before the student may participate.***

## **CONSEQUENCES**

Consequences of positive test results shall be cumulative through the student's enrollment in the District. **Note:** nothing in this policy shall limit or affect the application of state law, local policy, or the Student Code of Conduct. A student who commits a disciplinary offense shall be subject to consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

**FIRST OFFENSE:** Upon a first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity, and the student's parking permit shall be suspended, for 15 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

If a student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or parking a vehicle on school property after a first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, the student must also complete four hours of counseling with a provider chosen from a list of district-approved abuse counselors; the list shall include at least one cost-free option.

During the period of suspension and until completion of the required counseling, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

**SECOND OFFENSE:** Upon a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from any extracurricular activity, and the student's parking permit shall be suspended, for 30 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

If a student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or parking a vehicle on school property after a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, the student must also complete four hours of counseling with a provider chosen from a list of district-approved abuse counselors; the list shall include at least one cost-free option.

During the period of suspension and until completion of the required counseling, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

**THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES:** Upon a third or any subsequent offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity, and the student's parking permit shall be suspended, for 365 calendar days following the date the student & parent are notified of the test results.

If a student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or parking a vehicle on school property after a third or subsequent offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, the student must also complete eight hours of counseling with a provider chosen from a list of district-approved counselors; the list shall include at least one cost-free option.

During the period of suspension and until completion of the required counseling, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

## **APPEALS**

A student or parent may appeal a decision made under this policy in accordance with FNG (LOCAL). The student shall be ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities or reinstatement of parking privileges while the appeal is pending.

[For further information, see policy FNF (LOCAL). Also see **Steroids.**]

In addition to the above prohibitions, no student shall inhale, ingest, apply, use, or possess an abusable glue, aerosol paint, or substance containing a volatile chemical with intent to inhale, ingest, apply, or use any of these in a manner:

- Contrary to directions for use, cautions, or warnings appearing on a label of a container of the glue, paint, and/or substance.
- Designed to affect the central nervous system, create or induce a condition of intoxication, hallucination, or elation, or change, distort, or disturb the person's eyesight, thinking process, balance, or coordination.

Any violation involving drugs and/or alcohol will be handled in accordance to the MVISD Student Code of Conduct and in accordance with Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code. The consequences for alcohol related offenses will be consistent with the Mandatory Drug Testing Policy. Subsection 37.006 requires that a district place into a DAEP a student who commits a felony or any of the specific misdemeanors on or within 300 feet of school property or while the student is attending a school sponsored or school related activity on or off school property.

*ANY STUDENT PLACED IN A DAEP or AEP FOR DISCIPLINE REASONS UNDER THIS SECTION IS INELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION IN COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS OR ANY OTHER SCHOOL SPONSORED OR SCHOOL RELATED EXTRACURRICULAR OR SOCIAL ACTIVITY. THE STUDENT IS INELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY ASPECT OF THAT PROGRAM UNTIL THE AEP or DAEP PLACEMENT IS COMPLETED.* (Example: One day of AEP completion would be at 2:20 pm or upon the end of the school day for that campus.)

### **Injuries and Concussions**

Students who suffer injuries or illness in connection with extracurricular activities must consult a doctor or trainer within 24 hours. If an injury or illness hinders or limits a student's performance and/or practice capabilities, that student will be required to provide doctor's note outlining the specific limitations. Injured athletes and participants are expected to attend all events and practices in accordance with their doctor's notes. A student with a concussion must follow the MVISD/UIIL concussion policy until he or she is cleared to participate under the standards set forth by the MVISD/UIIL concussion policy, to the same extent as if the extracurricular activity was an interscholastic athletic activity, under Board Policy FM (Legal).

## LETTER JACKET POLICY

1. ATHLETES will receive a Letterman's jacket during their junior year by participating in a sport at the varsity level. To receive a Letter Jacket prior to the junior year, all of the following must be completed:
  - A. Must complete the season in a sport
  - B. Must remain in good standing with the coach of that sport and his/her peers.
  - C. Must play in at least half of the games of VARSITY competition throughout the season. (Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Cross Country)
  - D. Must score a point at the District Meet or a point in multiple regular meets (Track, Cross-Country).
  - E. Must place at the District Meet as a team member or individual. (Tennis and Golf)
  - F. Must Qualify for the Regional Meet. (Power Lifting)
2. For a VARSITY CHEERLEADER/MASCOT to earn a Varsity Letterman's Jacket they must have completed all of the following:
  - A. Must complete the year.
  - B. Must remain in good standing with the coach and his/her peers.
  - C. Must not have received demerits or reprimand from sponsor.
3. For a student to earn an ACADEMIC UIL Letterman's Jacket they must have completed the following:
  - A. Must remain in good standing with the coach and his/her peers.
  - B. Must compete at the District Level of Academic UIL for at least TWO years or advance to Region competition.
  - C. Must score a point at the District Level ONE of those years with either team or as an individual.
4. For a student to earn a DRAMA Letterman's Jacket they must have completed all of the following:
  1. Must remain in good standing with the coach and his/her peers.
  2. Complete 2 years as a cast or crew for UIL One Act Play or Advance to Area Competition.
5. For a student to earn a BAND Letterman's Jacket, they must:
  1. Participate in 12 band events: marching contests, concert/sightreading contests, winterguard contests, solo and ensemble, and all-region band
  2. Any student qualifying for a state contest (All-State Band or State Solo and Ensemble) will automatically be awarded a letter jacket.
6. **FRESHMEN MAY NOT RECEIVE A VARSITY LETTERMAN'S JACKET** for any extracurricular activity. However, they may earn their letter during this time and receive their jacket his/her sophomore year.

## **ORDERING OF A LETTERMAN'S JACKET**

1. Letterman Jackets will be ordered TWO times per school year.
2. Coaches, as well as Directors and Sponsors of an extracurricular activity must present the Principal with a list of their Varsity Lettermen TWO weeks prior to ordering date for approval. The Principal will forward this approved list to the Athletic Director for final approval and ordering.
3. Ordering Dates:
  - A. 1st Week of October (Prior year Spring Sports, Cheerleading, Band, Academic UIL and Drama)
  - B. 1<sup>st</sup> Week of April (Prior year Fall Sports or Band)
4. Distribution of Letterman Jackets
  - A. The Athletic Director or extracurricular director or sponsor will distribute letterman Jackets.
5. Mount Vernon ISD will pay for the JACKET and the LETTER. Any additional patches must be paid by the student/parent.

*\*\*\*\*For specific questions regarding the criteria to letter in an individual sport or organization, please contact the individual head coach, sponsor or director.*

# ATHLETICS

*The mission of Mount Vernon ISD Athletics is to enhance the academic experience and encourage learning through excellence in athletics, while developing character, integrity, responsibility and sportsmanship as indicators for success. Furthermore, it is our vision to build winning programs that promote student-success and recognizes the value of each individual student as a participant while.*

## **“Building Champions through Character and Commitment”**

### **STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT**

As a student-athlete representing Mount Vernon ISD, you have the responsibility to uphold all Mount Vernon ISD rules and regulations, as well as any other policies or procedures imposed by the Athletic Department and individual team coaches. Mount Vernon Athletics is committed to helping you develop your maximum academic and athletic potential. You are responsible for being knowledgeable about and adhering to the information contained in this handbook.

#### **1.1 Behavioral Expectations**

By agreeing to participate in the Mount Vernon Athletics Program you will have many additional demands and expectations placed on you. As a student-athlete you will receive more scrutiny than your peers and are expected to develop and maintain a high standard of personal behavior. The expectations include, but are not limited to the following:

- 1.1.1 Represent Mount Vernon ISD in an appropriate manner.
- 1.1.2 Respect for the personal worth, dignity and rights of others.
- 1.1.3 Exhibit a positive work ethic, pursue academic excellence, and improve in athletic skills and performance.
- 1.1.4 Practice personal and academic integrity.
- 1.1.5 Dress in a mutually respectable manner that represents the school in a positive light. Each coach will determine specific standards of dress and grooming.
- 1.1.6 Care for equipment and facilities by using equipment properly and safely, cleaning up after yourself and taking care of any clothing or equipment issued to you.
- 1.1.7 Respect for school policy as well as local, state and federal laws. The athletic department reserves the right to penalize students for misbehavior outside athletics.

#### **1.2 Sportsmanship**

Mount Vernon ISD is dedicated to the principles of sportsmanship and fair-play, as well as character-building through interscholastic athletics. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all activity disciplines. Student athletes are expected to abide by the following:

- 1.2.1 Student-athletes are expected to treat all players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect and sportsmanship.

- 1.2.2 Use of obscene or inappropriate language and gestures while competing is prohibited.
- 1.2.3 Student-athletes may not strike or physically abuse any spectator, official, coach or player.
- 1.2.4 If any infraction causes an athlete to be ejected from a sporting event, the athlete shall be suspended from the next athletic activity. An ejection for any unsportsmanlike act or activity will result in a suspension. These infractions will include but are not limited to fighting (which is an altercations between two or more athletes that includes but is s not limited to swinging, hitting, and punching) and inappropriate language with an official.
- 1.2.5 Penalties for an Ejection:
  - Football - ejection from that contest and miss the next contest.
  - All other sports - ejection from that contest and miss the next two contests.
- 1.2.6 Any action that violates Mount Vernon ISD standards as determined by the athletic director shall result in penalties and/or additional punishment.
- 1.2.7 The athletic director will report any player ejections to the superintendent the next school day along with the appropriate punishment.

### **1.3 Academic Responsibility**

The primary objective of all student-athletes at Mount Vernon ISD is to earn a high school diploma and develop the necessary skills for success in life. You have the responsibility to attend class, pay attention, and behave with manners in order to achieve this objective.

- 1.3.1 Student-athletes are expected to be in class on time, prepared to learn, and complete all assignment by the allotted deadline.
- 1.3.2 Student-athletes are expected to attend all practices and games as they are structured to supplement the overall learning process across the curriculum by teaching time-management, goal setting, and discipline.
- 1.3.3 When students miss class for extracurricular activities, both the coaches and the student athletes are expected to communicate in advance with faculty to find out what work and lesson will be covered during the time of absence.

### **1.4 Social Media**

With the development of the increased prominence of social networking sites, student-athletes must be careful with their electronic communications. Any communication by a coach or student-athlete that compromises the integrity or reputation of Mount Vernon ISD shall result in penalties.

- 1.4.1 Remember that electronic communication posted in open forums is out of your control, but you will be responsible for a parent post that is obscene or negligent.
- 1.4.2 Assume that all material posted will be seen by your mother, father, coach, teacher, and the school principal.
- 1.4.3 Student-athletes should refrain from posting information, photos, or other items online that could embarrass your family, your team, and Mount Vernon ISD.
- 1.4.4 Do not post the following:
  - Personal information such as address, phone number, and date of birth.
  - Do not post nudity or obscene gestures.

- Do not post comments discussing issues with your team or coach.
- 1.4.5 You will be held accountable for communication that compromises the reputation of your team, school, or community.

### **1.5 Tobacco/ Drugs/ Alcohol**

The use of tobacco products is prohibited for all student-athletes, coaches, game officials, and athletic staff in all sports during practice and competition. Violation of this rule will result in immediate dismissal from practice or competition.

The use of illegal drugs (not prescribed by a doctor) and alcohol is strictly prohibited for student-athletes at Mount Vernon ISD. Student-athletes are subject to random drug testing.

### **1.6 Team Rules**

Coaches will supplement the Athletic Handbook with expectations that are specific to their sport. Student-athletes who violate team rules are subject to penalties imposed by the specific sport's coach. Additionally, students who begin and quit a sport must follow the proper procedure.

- 1.6.1 Participation in each sport will be based on meeting the requirements for eligibility as well as the requirements set by the respective coaching staff.

### **1.8 Quitting A Sport**

Any student who wishes to quit a program must:

- a. Bring a note from parents stating that they are aware of his/her intentions and its implications.
- b. Forfeits his/her right to participate in that sport and will not be able to participate in another sport until the team's' season is over that the athlete quit.
- c. If the head coach agrees that it would be in the best interest of both the program and the athlete that the student quits, there will be no penalty and the athlete will be able to participate at that point.
- d. There will be a two-week grace period from the day the athlete begins the sport. (If the athlete quits during the grace period there will be no penalty).

### **1.9 Athletic Injuries or Illness**

The health and well being of each student-athlete is paramount at Mount Vernon ISD. Students who sustain injury or illness should follow the steps below:

1. Report the injury or illness to the head coach immediately.
2. Report the injury or illness to your parent.
3. The coach will assess the situation and refer you to an athletic trainer or contact your parent to discuss a doctor's visit if necessary.
4. A note from a physician or athletic trainer must be submitted to the coach before a student-athlete will be allowed to return to practice and competition.

## **COACH/PARENT RELATIONSHIP**



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

***Communication parents should expect from their child's coach:***

1. Coach's philosophy.
2. Expectations the coach has for your son or daughter, as well as other players on the team.
3. Locations and times of practices and contests.
4. Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment needed, school & team rules, off-season expectations.
5. Procedures that will be followed if your child becomes injured during participation.

***Communication coaches expect from parents:***

1. Concerns regarding their son or daughter expressed directly to the coach at the appropriate time and place.
2. Specific concerns in regard to the coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
3. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance. As your child becomes involved in interscholastic athletics, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It's important to understand there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. These are the times discussion with the coach is encouraged.

***Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach:***

1. The mental and physical treatment of your child.
2. What your child needs to do to improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior. It is very difficult to accept your child is not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches' make decisions based on what they believe is in the best interests of all students participating. As you can see from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those listed next, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

***Issues NOT appropriate for discussion with your child's coach:***

1. How much playing time each athlete is getting.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Any situation that deals with other student-athletes. There are situations that may require

a conference between the coach and parent. These are not discouraged, as it is important for each party to have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, refer to (*UIL Parent Information Manual*), the following procedure is suggested to help promote resolution to the issue.

***If a parent has a concern to discuss with the coach, the following procedure should be followed:***

1. Call the coach to set up an appointment.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic administrator and ask him or her to set up a meeting with the coach for you.
3. Think about what you expect to accomplish as a result of the meeting.
4. Stick to discussing the facts, as you understand them.
5. Do not confront the coach before, during or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution of the situation, but often escalate it.

***What should a parent do if the meeting with the coach didn't provide satisfactory resolution?***

1. Call the athletic administrator to set up a meeting with the athletic administrator, coach, and parent present.
2. At this meeting, an appropriate next step can be determined, if necessary.
3. Student's involvement in co-curricular activities has been proven to increase their chances of success later in life. We hope the information contained in this manual helps make that experience more enjoyable for everyone involved.
4. If another meeting is necessary, the athletic administrator will contact the principal to set up the meeting and inform all involved parties of the date and time.

**BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS**

- Remember that you are at the contest to support and yell for your team, and to enjoy the skill and competition; not to intimidate or ridicule the other team or its fans.
- Remember that school athletics are a learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made.
- Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, and as people, just as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
- A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious.
- Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups.

- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before, during, and after the game on or near the site of the event (i.e. tailgating).
- Use only cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Be a positive role model at events through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.
- Parents and spectators should be aware that the school can (and should) remove them from the premises and can prohibit them from attending future contests due to undesirable behaviors.
- Game officials can ask that school administrators have unruly fans removed from a contest facility.
- There is no such thing as a “right” to attend interscholastic athletics. Interscholastic athletics are considered a “privilege” and the spectator who avails themselves of it is expected to conduct themselves accordingly.

## **Equipment and Facilities**

### **Use of Equipment and Facilities**

It is important to emphasize to all students their responsibility to take care of school equipment and facilities and to report any abuses to their coach/sponsor. Replacing equipment and repair to facilities can only result in a loss of funding that could be used elsewhere in the extracurricular program.

Athletics Department-issued equipment is to be worn only during practice sessions and interscholastic contests, or by permission of coaches. At no times are athletes to wear school-issued equipment or uniforms for:

- Work or Job
- Socially
- School Wear

### **Collection and Storage of Equipment**

As students turn in their equipment, it should be checked off his/her equipment card noting the condition of all returned equipment.

### **Athletes are expected to:**

- Keep their equipment within their locker as directed by coaches;
- Take ownership of school facilities and assist in making sure they are well cared for; and
- Be financially responsible for any lost items checked out to them by the Athletic Department.

If any equipment is lost or has abnormal usage, the student will be charged a replacement cost. The following actions will take place until all financial obligations are met:

- The athlete will not receive any Honors or awards; and
- The athlete will have his/her parking privileges revoked.
- A list of students still delinquent at the end of the school year will be turned in to the building principal.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

As a member school of the University Interscholastic League (UIL), Mount Vernon ISD is dedicated to ensuring that all student-athletes meet the requirements outlined for participation in interscholastic athletics.

### **Disciplinary Action**

#### **Major Offense- 3 Strike Policy:**

Major offenses may include but are not limited to hazing, harassment or stealing or any other

serious violation of the law or rules.

Strike 1: 1<sup>ST</sup> Offense – Suspension from competition for up to 15 days.

Athlete must still attend all practices.

Strike 2: 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – Suspension from competition for up to 30 days.

Athlete must still attend all practices.

Strike 3: 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense – Removed from athletics for one calendar year. Re-admittance must be approved through the Athletic Director and will be based on grades and disciplinary record during the time away from athletics.

### **Minor Offense- Policy:**

The coach will address penalties assigned to minor offenses. Examples of minor offenses may include but are not limited to:

1. Profanity- will not be allowed.
2. Attire- Athletes will wear appropriate attire while at practice, games and travelling. The head coach of each sport will set the requirements during that season.
3. Hair Length (Males)- Hair must be neatly trimmed and may not extend below the eyebrow. Hair may not extend beyond the ear lobe or below dress shirt collar.
4. Punctuality- Athletes must be on time to practice, competition, class, meetings and departures.
5. Cleanliness- Keep your locker and the locker room clean.
6. Classroom Behavior – Student Athletes are expected to be leaders on and off the athletic fields and courts. How they conduct themselves in the classroom is of the utmost importance.

**MOUNT VERNON ISD**  
Athletic Department  
501 Texas Highway 37  
Mount Vernon, TX 75457  
<http://www.mtvernonisd.net>  
(903) 537-3700  
Extension 5264 (Boys AD)  
Extension 5268 (Girls AD)  
**Mighty Tiger Band**

The Philosophy of The Mighty Tiger Band is to:

- Teach the importance of self-discipline, cooperation, loyalty, and respect for others, as well as the importance of responsibility.
- Create in students a desire and appreciation for excellence in performance of any endeavor.
- Teach students how to set individual goals in life, and how to accomplish these goals.
- Teach students the skills and tools needed to perform to the best of their ability.

The Instrumental Music Program's Responsibility To Band Members is to:

- Provide the band members with the proper kind of setting and equipment necessary to aid in developing the student's musical ability and to help him form good, lasting citizenship habits.
- Plan each day's activities and encourage daily progress of the entire band.
- Provide the band with a full musical education through rehearsal, listening, performance, teaching, and testing.
- Maintain a learning environment by ensuring all members cooperate and removing those members who do not.
- Supervise the students in class or on school-sponsored band trips.
- Give students a background in music that is a life-long learning experience.

Your responsibility to the Mighty Tiger Band is to:

- Be regular in attendance and accountable for all absences.
- Make a **real effort** to learn and improve daily.
- Be responsible and ready to accept the consequences for his/her action.
- Be personable, neat, clean, and dressed appropriately.
- Show positive respect for those in authority.
- Follow all classroom rules, school regulations, and travel instructions given for trips.
- Be honest and fair with others concerning equipment, music, and school life in general.
- Cooperate with fellow band members and share with them the responsibilities and privileges that are part of the band program experience.
- Demonstrate and reflect pride at all times. Pride makes our band what it is. Be proud of your fellow band members and all of your accomplishments as a member of the Mt. Vernon Tiger Band.

## **ATTENDANCE**

It is vital that all band members are present and on time for all rehearsals. If members are missing, the effectiveness of the rehearsal is lost. A **first division band** can only be produced with 100% attendance and effort. Once a rehearsal is missed, it is impossible to recover the lost rehearsal time. Rehearsals are scheduled well in advance, and all members are expected to make any necessary arrangements to be on time for these rehearsals. Attendance is required at

**ALL** band rehearsals and events. Students should make doctors appointments for days that do not conflict with band rehearsals or sectionals. Lack of transportation or a job is **not** an excuse.

In case of illness do the following:

1. Call/email the director of bands the night before or morning of the absence.
2. Follow the school's absentee procedure.

You may be excused from a rehearsal for:

1. Family emergency (death, hospitalization, etc.).
2. Illness that prevents you from participating.
3. Family activities cleared with the director in advance.

In order for an absence to be excused, the student must provide written documentation (a note) from a parent or physician explaining the reason for the absence.

You may be excused from playing your instrument in school **only** with a written excuse from your doctor or a parent. Any unexcused absence must be made up at the convenience of the director or the student could face benching, suspension, or expulsion from the program.

## **SUMMER BAND REHEARSALS**

The MVHS Tiger Marching Band holds an annual summer band camp in preparation for the fall marching season. The annual band camp is held during the last full week before teacher in-service begins. These camps are required of every student who plans to be a member of the MVHS band. Absences for reasons other than sickness or family emergency must be cleared with the band director in advance. The band director will send out additional information and dates concerning these camps. During band camps:

1. Be sure to wear cool clothing and good shoes. You will not be allowed to march barefooted or in flip flops.
2. Bring sunscreen, sunglasses, and a cap.
3. The band boosters will provide refreshments and lunch.
4. You may bring your own drink, although water and gatorade are supplied.

## **EXTRA REHEARSALS**

Tuesday night and morning rehearsals will be held each week during marching season for the entire band. Rehearsals during the Spring for concert band and sectional rehearsals may be called by the band director if they are needed.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF REHEARSALS**

The daily rehearsal is the basis from which good performance originates. A conscientious effort at rehearsals will guarantee successful performance. This means that adequate preparation on your individual part must take place at home and not in the band rehearsal. *Rehearsals are*

*designed to learn about music and solve ensemble problems, not individual practice.*

## **PERFORMANCE POLICY**

All students will be given the opportunity to perform with the band. A student may not perform under these circumstances:

1. All district and state policies that apply. Examples are:
  - A. Failing any course--UIL rules prohibit a student from taking part in any extracurricular performance if he or she has failed a course. This probation is in effect for three weeks or until the student is maintaining a passing grade. Students may attend practice but may not participate in any function, contest, competition, etc.
  - B. Absence from school half a day or longer on the day of the performance.
2. Failure to play music off at acceptable levels.
3. Director discretion:
  - A. In cases of student misconduct or other situation, the director may exercise this option and not allow a student to perform with the band.
  - B. A student who misses a rehearsal and/or performance for an unexcused reason might not be permitted to participate (see benching, suspension, expulsion policy).

## **GRADING SYSTEM**

The grading system will follow MVISD approved scale, with evaluation based on participation, as well as achievement on your instrument and attitude. The distribution of grades is as follows:

- Daily Participation Grades/Weekly Grades 50%
- Music Playoffs/Tests/Performances 50%

Daily participation grades consist of having all materials required for class, as well as fully participating in rehearsal or the activity for that day. Students who can not attend performances due to ineligibility will be given the opportunity to make up the grade by written test or other means determined by the director.

## **BENCHING, SUSPENSION, EXPULSION**

### **Benching:**

When a member is benched, the member must wear the uniform, be on time for the event, stay for the entire event, and play his/her instrument if required to do so. The member may not perform with the band.

### **Suspension:**

When a member is suspended, the member cannot attend a band event in uniform, nor gain any recognition as a member.



## **Expulsion:**

When a member is expelled, the member will turn in all equipment and music and have their schedule changed at semester so that they no longer meet as a band member.

Benching, suspension, and/or expulsion shall be the decision of the band director.

Violations that would/could lead to these actions are:

1. Failure to respond to captains, squad leaders, drum majors, or directors.
2. Causing conflicts within auxiliary lines or the band.
3. Missing an event for any reason other than an excused absence.
4. Failure to learn the routine and perform it properly.
5. Under the influence or the use of alcohol or controlled substances of any kind.
6. Habitual missed practices and/or performances.
7. Failure to pass off music.
8. Failure to work off detail/penalty boxes.
9. Failure to follow band hall rules.
10. Any other act that shows disrespect or causes embarrassment to the school or band.

## **SCHOOL INSTRUMENTS, SUPPLIES, AND EQUIPMENT**

### **SHEET MUSIC**

Students are not charged for the music assigned to them, but students must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Write **only** in pencil on the music.
2. Write your name in the upper right-hand corner of the music as soon as
3. you receive it.
4. Always keep your music in the folders provided.
5. Always keep your music in your assigned locker. This helps prevent others from
6. accidentally picking your music up.
7. The music should remain in the same condition as when it was checked out.

*\*\*If your music gets lost, stolen, or destroyed, you will be charged \$1.00 for each page of music you do not have.*

### **INSTRUMENTS**

The Mt. Vernon ISD supplies certain instruments for use in the band program. Students who use school-owned instruments are personally responsible for their care. If instruments are damaged by misuse or neglect, the student is responsible for the cost of repair or replacement. Any problems encountered with these instruments should be reported to the band directors as soon as noticed. Students using school-owned instruments must supply their own mouthpieces and supplies (oils, greases, reeds, etc.).

All students are responsible for keeping supplies needed to keep their instrument in proper playing condition. These supplies are available for purchase through the band department. Instruments should be kept clean for best playing results and best appearance, as well as protecting an investment.

## **MARCHING AND CONCERT UNIFORMS**

In order to adequately protect the uniforms, we will use the following guidelines and rules concerning proper care and wearing our uniforms:

Wearing of Uniforms:

1. The student must always be dressed in:
  - A. Band shirt to wear under the uniform.
  - B. Pair of shorts to be worn under the uniform pants. In cold weather, leggings or thermal underwear may be worn under the uniform if they are not visible.
  - C. Black socks.
  - D. Black band shoes.
  - E. Black gloves (to be purchased by the student from the band).
2. Earrings, jewelry, and watches may not be worn with the uniform.
3. Long hair should always be placed up in the hat.
4. During concert season, long hair should be pulled back while in uniform.
5. Always wear the uniform full dress in public unless informed otherwise. The uniform is not to be removed until the performance/game is over unless instructed to do so.
6. The collar of the uniform must be latched in full dress.
7. Students may not add to the uniforms.

Care of Uniforms:

1. The uniforms must always be kept on a wooden hanger with the student's name on the hanger.
2. The uniform should always be kept hanging in its garment bag at all times unless it is on the uniform rack or on your body.
3. To allow the uniform to air out after wearing it, do not zip the garment bag all the way up to the top.
4. The uniform is NEVER to be left crumpled up on the floor of the band hall. If it is found this way you will be charged for dry cleaning fees and lose third quarter privileges.
5. Shoes may not be stored in garment bags.
6. Periodic inspections will be made of uniforms. Failure to pass these could result in penalty boxes or loss of third quarter privileges.
7. The student is responsible for any dry-cleaning in-between regular cleanings due to accidents (food stains, mud, etc.).

## **INSPECTION**

Inspection of instruments and uniforms will be made before each performance. In addition, instrument inspection may be called at any time. Instruments should be clean and in good repair for best playing results. Uniforms should be clean and in good repair, as well as worn correctly.

## **DRUM MAJOR AND SQUAD LEADERS**

Squad leaders will try out at the end of the school year for the upcoming school year. Drum Majors are responsible for assisting the band director as needed. Squad leaders are responsible for calling roll and making sure their squad is present at rehearsals and performances. Squad leaders will work with the band directors and drum majors to maintain and coordinate the band rehearsals for maximum proficiency. Below is a list of requirements, normal activities and duties performed by the Drum Major and Squad Leaders. Other activities may be added at the discretion of the Director of Bands:

1. Attendance at a special Drum Major or leadership camp that is approved by the director.
2. Marching Seasons: One Tuesday night rehearsal, morning rehearsals, and planned meetings as called by the directors.
3. Learning the routines, set-ups, & your roles for pep rallies, halftime performances,
4. contests, and performing exams.
5. Instruction during band camp, as well as during marching season.
6. Participating in all performances and playing exams.
7. Participating in All-Region band auditions.
8. Participating in Solo & Ensemble contest.
9. Drum Majors must be entering their junior or senior year/ squad leaders must be entering their sophomore year.

**\*\*\*\*These activities are required of all squad leaders and drum majors.\*\*\*\***

*More detailed information regarding drum major and squad leader behavioral requirements are specifically outlined in the drum major/squad leader contract packet.*

## **SECTION LEADERS**

The directors, at the end of summer band camp, will elect Section Leaders each year. Section leaders prepare his/her section for the music to be performed and make inspections for proper care and marking of music. The section leader inspects the uniforms of his/her sections, and makes sure all equipment is loaded before all trips. Section leaders are accountable to squad leaders and drum majors for their sections.

## **COLORGUARD**

The Colorguard function is to provide the audience with visual enhancement of the music through

the use of color effects, dance steps, and equipment maneuvers. Tryouts for Colorguard positions will be held at the end of each school year for the following year. The band director will determine the number of members in each unit. A three-member panel of directors from the area will do the judging. A member trying out for one of these positions will obtain a list of fundamentals and tryout qualifications from the director. Some of these qualifications are:

1. You must be entering the ninth grade or above.
2. Eligibility rules apply.
3. You must attend all required camps and practices.
4. Other activities as determined by the Colorguard director.

**\*\*\*A fee MAY be associated with both Colorguard & Winterguard\*\*\***

To tryout for the position of captain, you must have been a member of the Colorguard for the previous school year. The band director and Colorguard director will screen the applicants prior to tryouts for leadership qualities.

## **CHEERLEADERS**

The purpose of the Mt. Vernon Cheerleaders is to promote school spirit and sportsmanship, to

increase interest in school activities among students and the community, and to develop character, leadership, and individual responsibility while maintaining high moral standards.

All rules and regulations pertaining to cheerleaders will also apply to the spirit mascots.

## **Attendance**

- Cheerleaders are to be present at all school functions, practices, or athletic events during the school year for which the sponsor requires them to participate. A job is not an excuse for neglecting one's duties.
- Students who are involved in another school-sponsored activity must share time and notify the sponsor in advance of their conflict. Refer to the MVISD Extracurricular Handbook for order of participation. (Extracurricular Conflicts With Other Activities) Cheerleaders must attend practice whether or not they are able to participate due to grades, injury, ineligibility, etc.
- If a cheer class is offered, cheerleaders are required to be enrolled in it.
- All practices are closed. No one, including parents, boyfriends, sisters, brothers, girlfriends, etc. may attend practices unless the sponsor gives prior permission.
- Exceptions to all of the practice regulations will be left to the discretion of the coach and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

## **Code of Conduct**

### **Standards of Conduct**

Cheerleaders may incur disciplinary consequences for behavior that does not constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, and also incur disciplinary consequences from both the appropriate administrator and his or her coach for conduct that does constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Cheerleaders must comply with all standards of conduct outlined below, in addition to the standards of conduct and behavior outlined in the Mt. Vernon ISD Student Code of Conduct and other portions of this handbook. Cheerleaders will be subject to the standards of conduct outlined herein at all times, regardless of when or where the conduct occurs, whether on or off school property, and whether or not school is in session. Failure to comply with the standards of conduct may result in disciplinary action against the cheerleader, up to and including removal from the squad.

- Cheerleaders shall not engage in inappropriate behavior, including, but not limited to, inappropriate sexual conduct, fighting, public intoxication, possession or consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs, or other criminal activity.
- Cheerleaders shall not engage in behavior that warrants suspension from school, removal to DAEP, or expulsion from school.

### **Rules**

- Cheerleaders must abide by all school rules and regulations and all rules set forth in these guidelines.
- All cheerleaders must have a physical completed by a doctor prior to cheerleading camp. Physicals will be available at Mt. Vernon High School, or you can obtain a physical by your own doctor. The cost of the physical is the responsibility of the cheerleader.
- If a student fails a six weeks they must regain eligibility at the 3 week grading period immediately following in order to secure their spot on the team. If the student regains eligibility and fails a different six weeks they may be removed from the team.
- If a candidate tumbles at tryouts he/she will be expected and instructed to tumble throughout the cheerleading season.
- Cheerleaders will conduct themselves in a manner that promotes spirit, sportsmanship, and leadership at all times.
- Cheerleaders will follow the instructions of the coach or they will be subject to the appropriate punishment.
- Matching attire is REQUIRED for participation in cheerleader functions. If a cheerleader does not meet this requirement, she will attend the function and sit with the coach.
- All cheerleaders will ride as a group in a school vehicle to and from all away games unless waived by the coach and the principal. In such cases, a signed permission slip is to be given to the coach prior to the cheerleader leaving.

### Demerits and Discipline

Sponsors will issue demerits consistent to the cheerleading constitution:

### MVISD Cheerleading Demerit System

Number of Demerits and consequence	Infraction
1	Late for practice, meetings
1	Wearing wrong or unsafe practice attire Missing poms or any practice gear/attire
2 & benched for quarter	Late for a game or event
2	Unexcused missed practice (ANY NON-SCHOOL EVENT)
3	Non-compliance of uniform during games/events, not dressing up for spirit days
5	Unsportsmanlike conduct (including foul language) towards teammates, the other team and peers.
5	Non Compliance to Cheer Camp Rules
5	Does not follow Sponsor/Coach Directive
5	Poor attitude or work ethic during practice/game
5	Bullying or Inappropriate behavior toward peers
5	School Dress code violations
10	Unexcused missed games, events & pep-rally

10	Disrespectful to the coach, teachers, staff or administration
10	Any act at school or cheer event deemed unsafe by the coach
10	Any misuse of Social Media that degrades self, others, or school
15	Any office referral, ISS
School Referral to extracurricular handbook	Any affiliation with drinking, Drugs or illegal activities DURING or AWAY from school or Being placed in DAEP
UIL RULES	Not passing class for six weeks

Consequences:

**10 Demerits-** Benched for one Football or Basketball game, When games are not an option, sponsors will assign physical activities. (Laps, jump series, pull through, etc.)

**15 Demerits-** Placed on Probation, Benched for remainder of 6 weeks.

**20 Demerits-** Dismissed from the squad.

**Any student's actions may result in sponsor or principal review, which may constitute dismissal from the squad.**

Cheerleaders will have an opportunity to earn merits and erase five demerits per school year by doing community service approved by the sponsor. Merits do not offset a consequence already earned. (Ex. You may not use merits to be able to participate in game/event in which you already have been benched.

Repeated/excessive offenses may result in a sponsor/principal review. Repeated/excessive is defined as repetition of the same offense three or more times during the duration of a season.

Seasons are: Spring/Summer—Announcement of Squad to First Day of School.

Football-- Beginning of School until December 1 or last football game.

Basketball-- December until End of Season

What is excused?

- Medical Doctor appointment
- Family Death
- Immediate family Weddings
- Illness that is verified by a medical excuse
- Injury with a medical excuse and/or trainer's excuse
- UIL school activities
- Any other approved absence by your cheer coach

Cheerleaders will not make disparaging remarks in any manner, including social media, about a fellow cheerleader, a sponsor, or Mt. Vernon High School. If he/she does, the consequences will be as follows:

- **First offense** – sit out an event
- **Second offense** – sit out an event
- **Third offense** – removal from the squad

### **Dismissal/Removal**

- Cheerleaders may be dismissed from the squad for the following reasons:
- A cheerleader transfers to another school
- A cheerleader acquires 20 demerits
- If a student fails a six weeks they must regain eligibility at the 3 week grading period immediately following in order to secure their spot on the team. If the student regains eligibility and fails a different six weeks shall be subject to removal from the team.
- Persistent misbehaviors that result in multiple DAEP placements
- Other behavior which the coach deems inappropriate, including but not limited to, unsportsmanlike conduct, insubordination, or lewd or profane behavior.

## **FFA**

### **Mission**

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

### **Vision**

Students whose lives are impacted by FFA and agricultural education will achieve academic and personal growth, strengthen American agriculture and provide leadership to build healthy local communities, a strong nation and a sustainable world.



## **Individual Responsibility and Accountability**

Officers and members of FFA are expected to exercise responsibility appropriate to the Student Code of Conduct and their position and delegated authorities. FFA members are responsible to each other, both for their actions and their decisions not to act. Each individual is expected to conduct the business of the chapter in accordance with the Mission and Vision of FFA, exercising sound judgment and serving the best interests of the local chapter, the state and national associations, and the community.

## **OFFICERS**

### **Mt. Vernon FFA Officers will consist of:**

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Reporter

Sentinel

Advisor

PR Committee Chairman

### **Officer Duties & Responsibilities**

1. Memorize ALL the parts to the opening ceremonies.
2. Be able to lead by example.
3. Be present at all chapter & officer meetings.
4. Conduct yourself properly in the community.
5. Keep a clean image on social media not portraying immoral character as leaders.
6. Be familiar with the rules & regulations of the FFA.
7. Placement in AEP or DAEP will result in immediate removal from office.
8. Perform all duties & responsibilities that relate to your office.
9. Be enrolled in an Ag class during the year in which you are to serve as a chapter officer & encourage membership among your peers.

### **Additional Responsibilities**

1. Chapter Banquet (required)
2. Open house/ hotdog supper (required)
3. County Show (required)
4. Meat and Fruit Delivery Day After School
  - First District Meeting/district Camp
  - Weigh-In Day for County Show
  - Community Service Project
  - Hay Show

- Attempt to Participate in a fall leadership development events OR spring judging team
- District Convention
- Area Convention
- State Convention (Dallas July 11-15)
- 20 items of meat or fruit minimum to be sold and 15 items of cookie dough
- Trick or Treat on the Square
- Handicapable rodeo
- Any other event that comes up that we need participation.

Failure to abide by these rules could result in your removal from office!

I have read & understand these rules.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Printed

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Printed

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **ONE-ACT PLAY**

Mt. Vernon ISDs Theatre Program is nationally recognized as a preeminent performing ensemble. Mt. Vernon Theatre Program's Goal is to provide quality educational theatre where students learn advanced acting techniques staging, aspects of technical theatre and theatre etiquette. Our Goal is that when students leave our program they will have the skills necessary to accomplish any career goals they have in their future.

### **Responsibilities of Mt. Vernon Theatre Students**

- As a member of the Mt Vernon Theatre I will
- Promote and live by high moral standards

- Always apply the “TEAM” concept to the organization.
- Act respectful at all Mt. Vernon High School Functions.
- Encourage and support interest in sports, fine arts, and other activities of our school.

## **Attendance**

- All members must be present and on time for all practices, performances, and all other activities of the organization.
- ALL absences must be approved by the Director at least 1 day in advance.
- The director must be notified at least 3 days in advance of any absence due to an appointment or family event. (Members must bring a note from the doctor and/or parent/guardian.)
- Students who are involved in another school-sponsored activity must share time and notify the sponsor in advance of their conflict. Refer to the MVIDS Extracurricular Handbook for order of participation. (Extracurricular Conflicts With Other Activities).
- Students must attend any and all technical rehearsal. Exception to this must be discussed with the Director and Principal at least 3 days before the technical rehearsal. You will not be able to perform if you miss any Technical rehearsal.
- The director has the option of allowing members to perform who have excused absences.

If a student has 2 unexcused absences or is late to rehearsal 3 times. The student will be put on performance and practice probation.

**Probation means: 1st offence:** A student will be removed from their part for one week. This means they will come to rehearsal but not perform. If probation occurs during a performance the Director will decide if the student will perform.

**2nd offence:** Student will be removed from their part for two weeks. This means they will come to rehearsal but not perform. If a performance occurs during the two week time period students will not perform.

**3rd offence:** removal from the One Act Play company.

What is excused?

- Medical Doctor appointment
- Family Death
- Immediate family Weddings
- Illness that is verified by a medical excuse
- Injury with a medical excuse and/or trainer’s excuse
- UIL school activities
- Any other approved absence by your Director.

## **Code of Conduct**

### **Standards of Conduct**

One Act Play members may incur disciplinary consequences for behavior that does not constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, and also incur disciplinary consequences from both the appropriate administrator and his or her coach for conduct that does constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

One Act Play members must comply with all standards of conduct outlined below, in addition to the standards of conduct and behavior outlined in the Mt. Vernon ISD Student Code of Conduct and other portions of this handbook. One Act Play members will be subject to the standards of conduct outlined herein at all times, regardless of when or where the conduct occurs, whether on or off school property. Failure to comply with the standards of conduct may result in disciplinary action against the One Act Play member, up to and including removal from the company

- One Act Play members shall not engage in inappropriate behavior, including, but not limited to, inappropriate sexual conduct, fighting, public intoxication, possession or consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs, or other criminal activity.
- One Act Play members shall not engage in behavior that warrants suspension from school, removal to DAEP, or expulsion from school.

## **Rules**

- One Act Play members must abide by all school rules and regulations and all rules set forth in these guidelines.
- If a student fails a six weeks they must regain eligibility at the 3 week grading period immediately following in order to secure their spot on the team. If the student regains eligibility and fails a different six weeks they may be removed from the team.
  - If a student is failing during a performance the student can not perform.
  - Student must attend rehearsal if failing. However, it is the discretion of the Director whether or not the student will maintain their part in the play.
- One Act Play members will conduct themselves in a manner that promotes respect, sportsmanship, and leadership at all times.
- One Act Play members will follow the instructions of the director or they will be subject to the appropriate probation or removal from the company.
- Matching attire is REQUIRED for participation in One Act Play. If a One Act Play members does not meet this requirement, they will be put on probation.
- All One Act Play members will ride as a group in a school vehicle to and from all competitions unless waived by the Director and the principal. In such cases, a signed permission slip is to be given to the Director prior to the One Act Play member leaving.
- OAP Members will not make disparaging remarks in any manner, including social media, about a fellow member, Director, or Mt. Vernon High School or competing school.

**Dismissal/Removal:** OAP Members may be dismissed from the squad for the following reasons:

- OAP Members transfers to another school
- If a student fails a six weeks they must regain eligibility at the 3 week grading period

immediately following in order to secure their spot on the team. If the student regains eligibility and fails a different six weeks shall be subject to removal from the team.

- Persistent misbehavior that result in multiple DAEP placements.
- A student is charged with possession, consumption or fails a drug test provided by the school.
- Other behavior which the coach deems inappropriate, including but not limited to, unsportsmanlike conduct, insubordination, or lewd or profane behavior.

**Travel to Competitions:** The MVISD Student Code of Conduct and Board policy is in force during all competitions, whether school is in session or not. Any violations of the Student Code of Conduct or applicable laws shall result in disciplinary action as described in the Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook.

**ALCOHOL/DRUGS:** The use of illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at any time is prohibited. Violations will be handled according to the Student Code of Conduct and Board policy.

**HOTEL ROOMS:** Mixed gender groups may not visit in hotel rooms. The sponsor will delegate a community place for students to visit. This will typically be a hotel lobby. Students must be in their own rooms at the designated curfew time.

**Any student's actions may result in sponsor or principal review, which may constitute dismissal from the squad.**

## **2018-2019 Extracurricular Handbook Acknowledgment Form**

Student(s) and Parent/Guardian:

Participation in any extracurricular activity is not a right but a privilege. Any student who wishes to take advantage of the opportunity to participate in extracurricular programs and activities must make an earnest effort to abide by the rules and expectations

outlined in the Extracurricular Handbook.

The 2017-2018 Extracurricular Handbook is available online at [www.mtvernonisd.net](http://www.mtvernonisd.net). If you would like a hard copy, please contact the principal's office at (903) 537-3700 to either pick one up or request that a copy be sent home with your student. Copies may also be requested from the appropriate coach, director or sponsor.

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the guidelines in the Extracurricular Handbook set forth by the Mount Vernon ISD Administration.

**Please sign and date this form and return it to the appropriate coach/sponsor. Please keep the second copy for your personal records.**

Students return this signature page to the appropriate coach, director or sponsor before participating in any Mount Vernon ISD Extracurricular Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Received By:	Date:
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## **Mt. Vernon ISD Mandatory Drug Testing Program**

### Extracurricular Activities and Driving/Parking on Campus

The Mt. Vernon ISD requires drug testing of any student in grades 7–12 who chooses to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities or requests a permit to park a vehicle on school property. A student participating in these activities or requesting a parking permit shall be randomly tested throughout the school year. Students covered under the Mandatory Drug Testing Program include all students participating in school-sponsored extracurricular activities (UIL and non UIL), clubs, and any student driving on campus or requesting a parking permit. Random tests shall be conducted on as many as six dates throughout the school year.

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit, the student shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to be subject to the rules and procedures of the Mandatory Drug Testing Program for extracurricular activities and driving/parking on campus at MVISD. I have read and understand the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program including consequences for positive tests.

Please complete the information below and sign and return to the student's coach, director or sponsor.

Student's Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# PERMISSION FORM

Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach or Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Destination: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure time from Mt. Vernon: \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated arrival in Mt. Vernon: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

By my afore-fixed signature, I confirm my permission for my child to make the trip described above.

My signature also confirms that I release Mt. Vernon Schools and the driver and sponsor or coach from the responsibility or liability in case of accident or illness.

My signature also confirms my permission for the sponsor or coach to seek medical help for my child in case of accident or illness if I, or someone designated by me cannot be reached in case of an emergency situation.

I am providing the following information for contacting me in case of an emergency.

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Person to contact if I can't be reached: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

My signature also affirms that I will be responsible for my child's transportation back home if he/she violates behavior expectations as set forth in the MVISD Code of Conduct and Board policy. I am assured by this form, that reasonable care and precaution will be



taken for my child's safety during the trip described above.

## RESOURCES

For information on Mount Vernon ISD visit:  
<http://www.mtvernonisd.net>

For Game Schedules and Scores visit:  
Sports section [of www.mtvernonisd.net](http://www.mtvernonisd.net)

For information regarding the University Interscholastic League visit: [www.uiltexas.org](http://www.uiltexas.org)

### **SCHOOL BOARD POLICY STATEMENT**

*The rules and regulations in this handbook are subject to the amendment and approval of the Mount Vernon ISD School Board and Superintendent and are published in accordance with the rules and regulations of the University Interscholastic League (UIL).*