

Dear PHS Families & Student participating in extra-curricular activities-

Below you will find highlights from the Piedmont High School Activities Code. I am asking that each student who participates in extra-curricular activities review the code with their parent/guardian in order to fully understand Piedmont High School's expectations of students for the 2010-2011 school year. You may view the activities code in its entirety at [www.piedmont.k12.ca.us/phs](http://www.piedmont.k12.ca.us/phs)

After you have reviewed the Activities Code please sign below to acknowledge that you've read the PHS Activities Code and return this form to your coach. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your coach, advisor, director, the athletic directors, or the Principal.

Sincerely,

Richard Kitchens, Principal

### ***Highlights from the PHS Activities Code***

All school sports are covered by this code.

All activities which are extra-curricular in nature are covered by this code.

*Attendance at school dances, including the Homecoming Dance, the Winter Ball, and all other dances throughout the year is covered by the Activities Code. Students who are ineligible may not attend these events. (Attendance at the Senior Ball is permitted to ineligible seniors but not to ineligible underclassmen.) Attendance as an audience member at athletic and dramatic events is not, however, covered by the code. Students who are ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities are eligible to attend these events unless forbidden to do so for school disciplinary reasons not related to the activities code.*

### ***Conduct***

Students participating in extra-curricular activities assume responsibility for knowing and following this code and for accepting the penalties if they violate the code. Students participating in activities are expected to:

- 1. Behave in ways that will bring credit and honor to Piedmont High School and to themselves, their teachers, coaches, parents and fellow students. Appropriate conduct is expected both on and off campus at all times. Students are expected to abide by the school's academic integrity policy.*
- 2. Attend all classes regularly.*
- 3. Play fairly and cleanly in athletic competitions. Students will follow regulations, cooperate with officials, and display good sportsmanship in both wins and losses.*
- 4. Not use alcohol or illegal drugs.*

### ***Eligibility***

Participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege extended to students who are progressing adequately toward their primary goals at Piedmont High School--the goals of getting a good education and of preparing for the pursuit of a higher education and/or a satisfying career. Eligibility for extra-curricular activities is determined by the student's grades and by student adherence to the code of conduct outlined below. Final determination of eligibility in any particular case is determined by the Principal.

### ***Grades***

To be eligible for participation in extra-curricular activities, a student must have met the following grade requirements during the last regular grade reporting period preceding the student's participation in the activity:

- 1. The student must have received a passing grade in courses representing at least 20 period units.*
- 2. The student must have attained at least a 2.0 grade point average in all coursework attempted.*
- 3. The student must not have received a "U" citizenship grade in more than one course.*
- 4. In the event of an Incomplete grade, the conditional grade submitted by the teacher will be used in determining eligibility until the Incomplete is cleared.*

### ***Prohibited Activities with Specific Penalties***

**Behavior:** Behavior which in the judgment of the Principal seriously discredits the student or the school, whether this behavior is on or off campus, is prohibited. On-campus behavior which warrants suspension from school and off-campus behavior which warrants citation by the police will be reviewed by the Principal in order to determine whether the student's continued participation in extra-curricular activities is appropriate. In response to such behavior the Principal may impose penalties ranging from a brief suspension from extra-curricular activities to a full suspension from activities for current and/or future semesters.

**Attendance:**

1. Absences on the day of an event.
  - a. A student participating in extra-curricular activities may not have any unexcused absences on the day of an extra-curricular event in order to participate in the event.
  - b. Failure to attend at least 1/2 of a student's assigned classes prior to time for dismissal for the extra-curricular event, even when the absences from these classes are excused by the parent, will make the student ineligible to participate in the event
  - c. For purposes of determining eligibility for extra-curricular events, excuses for eighteen year olds excusing themselves on the day of an event will not be accepted unless accompanied by documentation such as a medical appointment slip, etc.
2. Students will become ineligible for all extra-curricular participation for the remainder of a semester whenever they have accumulated 2 **unexcused** absences in any one class in one semester or 4 unexcused absences combined in a quarter.
3. Whenever a student accumulates 4 **excused** absences in any one class at the quarter or 20 excused absences in all classes, the Principal may review that student's attendance, extra-curricular and academic record and will make a determination whether it is in the student's or the school's best interests for the student to be allowed to continue in extra-curricular activities.

**Alcohol and Drugs:** The school does not condone *any* use of alcohol or illegal drugs by students. The category of illegal drugs includes steroids not prescribed by a physician as well as such mind altering substances as marijuana, cocaine, LSD, psychedelic mushrooms, etc. The school also recognizes the difficulty of monitoring student use of these substances outside of the school day or outside of school events. Therefore the rules below address primarily the use of illegal drugs or alcohol that is broadly school related. The following specific rules will guide the school administration in dealing with use of alcohol and drugs by students involved in extra-curricular activities:

1. When the Principal is presented with convincing evidence that a student has done any of the following, the student shall be suspended from all extra-curricular activities:
  - Possessed, consumed, or under the influence of alcohol in any amount or possessed, used, or under the influence of illegal drugs or possessed drug paraphernalia at any time during school or at any school sponsored event,
  - Possessed, consumed, or under the influence of alcohol in any amount or possessed, used, or under the influence of illegal drugs on the day of an extra-curricular event, prior to, or during that event, even if such use did not take place during school,
  - Possessed, used, or under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol at any time on the grounds of any school in the Piedmont Unified School District, or
  - Knowingly been present in a group of persons using alcohol or illegal drugs during the school day or on school or PUSD grounds at any time without immediately absenting him or herself from such a group upon discovery of such illegal use,The following rules shall guide the suspension from extra-curricular activities:
  - a. Athletes will be dropped for the remainder of the sports season.
  - b. Creative arts performers in an *extra-curricular* creative arts program will be dropped through the final performance of that program.
  - c. School officers will be removed from office and from the leadership class.
  - d. A student not currently involved in any extra-curricular activities at the time of the infraction will be suspended from all extra-curricular activities for six weeks from the date of the infraction or from the date of the discovery of the infraction, whichever is later. If the suspensions referred to in lines a-d above occur with less than six school weeks left in the remainder of a season/activity in which the student *is* involved, the student shall also be suspended from any further extra-curricular activities until a date six school weeks from the date of the original suspension.
  - e. When students go on overnight events such as athletic tournaments, they are to understand that the entire trip from time of departure to time of return, whether by school bus or private vehicle, is part of the event, and any use of alcohol or illegal drugs during this time will be deemed to be a violation occurring during school time. Rules governing chaperones' procedures on such trips and definitions of what constitutes possession of illegal drugs or alcohol may be found on page 17 of this handbook.
3. All directors of extra-curricular activities and all coaches *must* report all instances of alcohol or drug use on the part of students involved in their activity or sport to the principal.

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Student's **Signature**

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Parent/Guardian **Signature**

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**Print** Student's Name

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**Print** Parent/Guardian's Name