

**SPECTATOR CONDUCT AND SPORTSMANSHIP FOR ATHLETIC AND  
EXTRACURRICULAR/CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

The Marshall Public School District recognizes the value of extracurricular/co-curricular activities in the educational process and the opportunity for students to participate in organized activities outside of the traditional classroom.

The Board believes that extracurricular/co-curricular activities should provide opportunities for students to develop discipline, self-esteem and strength of character and that these qualities must be fostered in a supportive atmosphere where adults serve as role models. The Board of Education further encourages the development and promotion of sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity in all phases of the educational process as well as all segments of the community. This includes administrators, participants, adult supervisors, parents, fans, spirit groups and the entire community.

Spectators are encouraged to attend school sponsored extracurricular/co-curricular activities as guests of the school district. Accordingly, as a condition of this permission, they must comply with the school district's rules and policies. Spectators will not be allowed to interfere with the enjoyment of the students participating, other spectators or with the performance of employees and officials supervising the extracurricular/co-curricular activity. Spectators, like the student participants, are expected to display mature behavior and sportsmanship. The failure of spectators to do so is disruptive and interferes with the District's Educational Philosophy.

It is the responsibility of the spectator to:

1. Provide positive support. Use cheers that support and provide the participants with a sense of pride.
2. Exercise representative behavior at all times. Behavior influences others whether you are aware of it or not.
3. Display pride in your actions at every opportunity. Avoid actions that offend visiting teams or individual participants.
4. Recognize and appreciate skilled performances regardless of school/community affiliation.
5. Gain an understanding of the rules of the game in order to be a better-informed spectator.
6. Treat all visiting teams in a manner in which you would expect to be treated. Openly display a respect for the opponent at all times.
7. Accept the judgment of coaches and officials. The rule of good sportsmanship is to accept and abide by the decisions made by these individuals.
8. Encourage other spectators to participate in the spirit of good sportsmanship.

9. Obey the instructions of school employees and supervisors of the extracurricular/co-curricular activity.
10. Use appropriate language at all times while on school property.
11. Follow all school, conference and WIAA rules and regulations.

To protect the rights of students to participate without intimidation and to permit the supervisors and officials of extracurricular/co-curricular activities to perform their duties without interference, the following provisions are in effect, but not limited to:

1. Abuse or demeaning verbal or physical conduct of spectators directed at participants, officials, coaches/advisors, or conduct that interferes with the administration will not be tolerated.
2. The use of vulgar or obscene language directed at students, officials, coaches/advisors, or at other spectators or supervisors, etc. will not be tolerated.

It is the District's intent to hold all of those in attendance accountable for their actions. Any spectator who behaves in a manner that is not consistent with school district expectations of this policy may be removed from the event by security personnel, school officials, or by the individual(s) in charge of the event. In addition, the individual may be denied admittance to future school events or activities for a specified period of time. This includes visitors from other schools and communities.

In the event that an individual is denied admittance to future school events, a notice of exclusion will be sent by the District Administrator on behalf of the Board of Education to the individual involved. Due process shall be provided in accordance with school district policies and shall include the opportunity for a hearing with school officials.

The district shall also have full authority to invoke penalties or pursue legal action as consistent with school board policies, municipal, state and federal laws.

Date of Adoption:     January 24, 2007

Date of Revision: