

# **LYNBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION CONTRACT**

The Board of Education of the Lynbrook Public Schools recognizes the value of student involvement in extra-curricular activities and encourages all students to participate in as many programs as is appropriate for each individual. Each program is an opportunity for further educational, social, and emotional development. However, such participation is a privilege and not a right. Ever cognizant of the importance of exhibiting good behavior and leading healthy lifestyles, the Board of Education seeks to encourage students to live and behave in a manner that reflects favorably on themselves, their families and their school at all times. It is with this in mind that these guidelines and contract are presented to our students and parents/guardians.

### **PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION (FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES ONLY)**

1. All athletes must successfully pass a physical examination. The school physician will provide this exam on a specified date prior to the season, **OR** the athlete may go to his/her personal physician. In either case, the appropriate **LYNBROOK MEDICAL FORM** must be on file. Notes on physician's letterhead are **NOT** acceptable.
2. Parent Permission Forms with emergency information must be returned to the coach. Parents should pay particular attention to the statement on the Permission Form regarding possible risk of serious injury.

### **GENERAL POLICIES FOR ALL STUDENTS**

1. The school is not responsible for personal property. At no time should valuables be left out in a classroom, hallway or locker room unattended.
2. All injuries sustained during participation in athletics or school activities must be reported immediately to the coach or activity moderator in order that the appropriate insurance forms can be filed. Parents should understand that the school district's insurance policy is a supplementary policy to their coverage and **only partially** covers what is not covered under the family's policy. Any student requiring medical attention by a physician is required to get a physician's note in order to resume activity.
3. All equipment issued to any student or student-athlete must be maintained in good condition and returned at the conclusion of the season or school year. Equipment not returned must be paid for at the **current replacement cost**. A student may not join a subsequent team or activity until all prior obligations are satisfied. Additionally, privileges may be suspended, and report cards/diplomas will be withheld.
4. For student-athletes attendance at all practices and games as scheduled by the coach are mandatory. It is the athlete's responsibility to notify the coach if it becomes necessary to miss a practice or game. Students participating in clubs or activities are expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings and related events.
5. All students wishing to participate in extra-curricular activities must attend all classes in order to participate that day. Any student missing class as a result of legal or medical appointments must receive approval from the athletic director or building principal or designee prior to participation.
6. In order to remain eligible for participation in athletics and extra-curricular activities, students must not fail more than two subjects during a given marking period. Any student failing two or more subjects will be placed on academic probation. Failing to seek improvement in one's academic standing during this probation period will result in the loss of eligibility to participate in any and all extra-curricular activities.
7. All students bear a responsibility to behave in a manner that reflects favorable on the Lynbrook schools and the greater school community. Behaviors or actions that violate the District Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary consequences and/or suspension from extra-curricular participation. Examples of unacceptable behavior include but are not limited to:
  - a. **Verbal infractions** – mocking, name calling, coercion, taunting, negative teasing and threats (verbal, written or electronic).
  - b. **Physical infractions** – pushing, shoving, kicking, hitting, spitting, extortion, stalking, restraining, humiliating acts, defacing property, vandalism, to threaten the use of violence.
  - c. **Social Alienation and Shunning** – gossiping, rumor spreading, ridicule, slurs (ethnic, religious, sexual, racial), social rejection, grudge carrying, threatening looks, public humiliation, and intentionally and maliciously excluding.
  - d. **Hazing** – is a form of harassment and is not to be condoned under any circumstance. Students found to be involved with, or to have committed, acts of harassment and/or hazing will be subject to disciplinary action and suspension from extra-curricular activity.

8. Students must recognize that there are many destructive decisions that they may face and must do everything in their power to avoid making decisions that jeopardize their health and safety. THE USE OF TOBACCO, ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUGS, THE POSSESSION OF A WEAPON, OR PARTICIPATION IN GAMBLING, IS A VIOLATION OF THE DISTRICT CODE OF CONDUCT AND WILL BE GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND/OR SUSPENSION FROM ALL EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES. The following procedures will be followed regarding all violations of these guidelines:

- A. Students found to have been under the influence of alcohol or any other drug, or in possession of tobacco, alcohol or any other drug or a weapon, as well as participation in gambling, may be ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities for a length of time to be determined by the building principal and/or the director of athletics. In addition, and prior to being able to participate in extra-curricular activities, students must attend an information seminar with the coach/moderator, parents, and either the school social worker or school nurse and the athletic director/principal or his/her designee.
- B. A second occurrence may result in a suspension of activity equivalent to two or more interscholastic competitions. A course of action will be determined to provide appropriate counseling between the school and family. If this course of action is not completed, the suspension from activity will remain in place indefinitely.
- C. A third occurrence may result in a suspension of all participation for up to one year. Students will only be permitted to return at the recommendation of the Athletic Director and/or Building Principal once the suspension has been served.

9. As models in the development of their children's abilities and character, the role played by parents and guardians can not be understated. As partners with the Lynbrook School District in the successful academic, social and emotional development of our children, I commit to the following:

- Be a positive role model so that through my/our own actions, I help to ensure that each child has the best experience possible.
- Be a "team" or "whole activity" fan, not a "my kid" fan.
- Weigh what my child says in any controversy, and work with coaches and moderators to gather all of the facts.
- Demonstrate respect to all opponents, parents of opponents, as well as opposing support groups at all interscholastic competitions.
- Be respectful of all referees and officials.
- I will not instruct or coach my child before or during a game or activity, as such instruction may conflict with the coach's or moderator's directives and plans.
- Praise all students in their attempts to improve and grow as players or participants.
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of the rules governing my child's activity or sport.
- Recognize and show appreciation for excellent performance by all participants.
- Help my child learn that success is experience in the development of his/her skills and that feeling good about working hard and getting better is really what participation is all about.
- Take time to talk with coaches and moderators in an appropriate manner, including the proper time and place, if I have a concern. I will respect the coach/moderator by following the designated chain of command.
- Actively support the alcohol, tobacco and drug-free policies of the Lynbrook School District. I will support my child by holding him/her accountable for their commitment to non-use of substances and to proper behavior inside and outside of school regarding hazing, harassment and bullying as outlined in the District Code of Conduct and this Participation Contract.

10. School employees, coaches, and club/activity moderators who fail to enforce these policies or any violation of the Lynbrook School District Code of Conduct may be subject to disciplinary action.

WE HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND WILL ABIDE BY THIS AGREEMENT:

Please Print Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

August 2011