

Working Meeting of the Shelton Public Schools Board of Education

Monday, May 11, 2026

the Elementary Conference Room

6:00 PM

President Johnson called the Working Meeting of the Shelton Public Schools Board of Education to order at 6:02 PM on Monday, May 11, 2026 in the Elementary Conference Room. The meeting was advertised in accordance to Policy 2008. An open meetings poster, agendas and procedures to address the Board of Education were available to visitors.

1. Call to order and roll call

Kay Johnson: Present, Emmy Power: Present, Levi Rogers: Present, Lisa Stewart: Present, Dana Tompkin: Present, Chuck Wiese: Present. Present: 6.

6:02 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Request to address the Board of Education

There were no requests to address the Board of Education.

4. Discussion Items

4.a. Discuss and review Board Policy 5013 Extracurricular Drug Testing Program.

Discussion around making item 9 more specific about what qualifies as an off-premise location. Discussion was had around adding nicotine to the policy. There was also discussion around self-reporting and refusals to test.

4.b. Discuss and review the Student and Coach Sportsmanship policy in the Activities Handbook.

Discussion was around maintaining the integrity and reputation of the school while being equitable to the players and coaches.

4.c. Discuss and review Board Policy #6025 Student Cell Phone and Other Electronic Devices.

Ran out of time in the working session. Will revisit.

5. Adjournment

Motion made by Kay Johnson seconded by Chuck Wiese to to adjourn meeting. 7:36.

Vote: Passed

Kay Johnson: Yea, Emmy Power: Yea, Levi Rogers: Yea, Lisa Stewart: Yea, Dana

Tompkin: Yea, Chuck Wiese: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Respectfully Submitted,
Levi C. Rogers, Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the
United States of America, and to the
Republic for which it stands, one Nation
under God, indivisible, with liberty and
justice for all.

POLICY 5013: EXTRACURRICULAR DRUG TESTING PROGRAM

The school district supports and values student participation in extracurricular activities, but such participation in school district extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Students in all extracurricular activities in grades 9-12 shall be subject to mandatory and random testing for the presence of alcohol or illegal drugs.

1. Purpose of Random Drug Testing

- a. The school district has recognized that observed and suspected drug and alcohol use and abuse has increased among the student population, including students participating in extracurricular activities.
 - b. The school district seeks to provide safe, drug-free schools.
 - c. The school district seeks to deter the use of illegal and prohibited drugs and alcohol among students.
 - d. The school district recognizes that students who use illegal and prohibited drugs pose a threat to the health and safety of themselves, other students, teachers, administrators, and other persons.
 - e. The school district finds that the drug and alcohol problem among the student body will be effectively addressed by making sure that the large number of students participating in extracurricular activities do not use drugs and alcohol.
2. **Notice:** Each student who participates or seeks to participate in extracurricular activities shall be given a copy of this policy either in written form or included in the student and activities handbook. The policy and all forms will be posted on the district's website
 3. **Drug Testing Coordinator:** The Drug Testing Coordinator shall be the Principal or his or her designee unless otherwise indicated.
 4. **Extracurricular Activities:** This policy applies to any activity that meets the guidelines of an extracurricular activity at the school district, which includes but is not necessarily limited to the following:

Basketball	Dance	
Football		
Musicals	Quiz Bowl	Wrestling
Cheerleading	FFA	

Golf
Track
Flag Team
Mock Trial
Volleyball

One Act Play
Cross-country

Band

Choir

Speech/Debate

5. Students Who Are Required to Submit to Drug Testing

- a. **Grades:** All students in grades 9-12 who participate in any extracurricular activity or competition are part of the pool subject to random drug testing.
 - b. **Consent:** A student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign a consent form before the student shall be eligible to try out for, practice with, or participate in the extracurricular activity. The consent form is attached to this policy.
 - c. **Selection Pool Eligibility:** Students shall remain in the selection pool for an entire calendar year (365 days) from the date the consent form is received by the school district.
 - d. **Withdrawal:** Students who have a consent form on file remain eligible for drug tests from the date the consent form is received by the school district and throughout the remainder of the school year or until the student files a Withdrawal of Student from Activity form signed by the student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s). Upon withdrawal, the student shall not be eligible to participate in any activity that is subject to drug testing for the remainder of the school year. A student who files a Withdrawal of Student from Activity form after selected for a random drug test but before submitting to the test or after testing positive shall be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activities for one calendar year from the date the Withdrawal of Student from Activity form is received by the Drug Testing Coordinator.
6. **Drugs:** Students participating in extracurricular activities are prohibited from using, possessing, distributing, manufacturing, or having drugs present in their system. "Drugs" means:

Any substance considered illegal by the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-401 et seq. Any substance, which is controlled by the Food and Drug Administration unless prescribed to the student by any licensed medical practitioner authorized to prescribe controlled substances or other

prescription drugs; Alcohol for any student under the age of 21. Alcohol shall have the meaning as provided in NEB. REV. STAT. § 48-1902(1).

7. Testing Procedures

- a. **Student Selection:** All students who participate in extracurricular activities and submit a consent form will be included in a master list and will be subject to random drug screening. The master list shall be submitted to the company employed by the district to conduct the testing.
 - b. **Parental Request:** Students who do not participate in extracurricular activities may be added to the random drug screening master list upon parental/guardian request and filling out the forms. If a parent requests that they have their student drug tested, the parent/guardian, not the district, will pay the cost of that test.
8. **Type of Test:** The school district reserves the right to utilize breath or a 12-panel urinalysis testing procedures. Urine samples, which screen positive, will be confirmed by either a Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS) or Liquid Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS) confirmatory test. Positive breath alcohol tests will be confirmed by EBT (Evidential Breath Tester).
9. **Collection Site:** The Drug Testing Coordinator will designate the varsity locker room's outer restroom as the collection sites at which the student will provide specimens.
10. **Collection Procedures:** The school board will select a Drug Program Administrator (DPA). The DPA shall randomly select the students subject to drug testing from the master list of the active students participating in extracurricular activities at the time of the test. The DPA will maintain and follow generally accepted industry standards for collecting, maintaining, shipping, and accessing all specimens. The DPA will seek to obtain the sample in a manner designed to insure accurate testing protocols while minimizing intrusion into a student's privacy. The DPA and the school district will provide a copy of the collection procedures upon request. The Drug Testing Coordinator will determine the time of day for testing to be completed.
- a. **Drugs:** Students may be randomly tested for any drugs, including but not limited alcohol, amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, cocaine, metabolites, LSD, marijuana, metabolites, methadone, methaqualone, opiates, phencyclidine,

propoxyphene, and ecstasy.

- b. **Results:** The Drug Program Administrator or their representative shall notify the student's parent/guardian of any positive test after the initial screening. The DPA will use a secure method to transmit all positive test results to the DPA's Medical Review Officer (MRO). An MRO accreditation body will certify the MRO. The MRO will be responsible for reviewing test results and determining whether the use of a substance identified by the sample analysis is from illicit use or a legitimate medical use. Prior to making a final decision, the MRO or his or her assistant shall contact the student and his or parent(s)/guardian(s) to discuss the result over the telephone. If the MRO determines the test results are negative, no further action shall be taken against the student. The MRO will only report results of verified positives to the DPA. The DPA shall then notify the Drug Testing Coordinator of the positive test result. The Drug Testing Coordinator shall notify the student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) and any staff members responsible for implementing the consequences of this policy.
 - c. **Request for a Retest:** A split specimen will be collected for all testing methods, with the exception of alcohol testing. A positive alcohol test will be confirmed with an EBT device. A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may request that the split specimen be tested at a second nationally certified laboratory from a list provided by the MRO. The request for the test must be submitted in writing to the MRO (with a copy sent to the Drug Testing Coordinator) within 72 hours of being notified of the final testing result. The student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must pay the associated costs for an additional test in advance. The costs will be reimbursed if the result of the split sample test is negative. The student will remain subject to the consequences of this policy during the retesting procedure.
11. **Negative Tests:** Students and their parents will receive verbal or written notice when the student's test result is negative by the district's Drug Testing Coordinator.
12. **Consequences for Testing Positive:** Whenever the test results indicate the presence of drugs, Drug Testing Coordinator shall schedule and hold a confidential meeting with the student, parent/guardian, and sponsor/coach. Other members of the school's administration may also attend the meeting. At the meeting, the Drug Testing Coordinator shall explain the drug testing procedures and the policy of the district. The consequences shall be as follows (All offenses are cumulative in grades 9-12):

a. First Offense

The student shall be required to attend practices but not participate.

The student will be ineligible to publicly perform in any extracurricular activity for 14 calendar days. The day of the positive test results received by the district shall be the first day for counting purposes. If the end of the activity precedes the end of the 14 days, the remaining days will carry over to the next activity so the student completes the required number of days.

The student shall obtain a drug and alcohol assessment and counseling from a certified substance abuse counselor or licensed mental health provider who holds a valid license that includes in its scope of practice the ability to administer substance abuse evaluations and/or treatment. The drug and alcohol assessment and counseling will be provided to the student by the district. This will be arranged and approved by the Guidance Counselor and the student's parents or guardians. The student shall provide written proof of obtaining the assessment to the guidance counselor. The student is strongly encouraged to comply with the assessment and counselor's recommendations.

The student will be subject to follow-up drug tests at least one time per month for the next 6 months when school is in session or end upon graduation.

Second Offense

The student shall be required to attend practice but not participate.

The student will be ineligible to publicly perform in any extracurricular activity for 30 calendar days. The day of the positive test result is received by the district shall be the first day for counting purposes. If the end of the activity precedes the end of the 30 days, the remaining days will carry over to the next activity so the student completes the required number of days.

The student shall attend additional drug and alcohol counseling or educational program provided by the district. The counseling will be arranged by the Guidance Counselor in conjunction with the student's parents or guardians.

The student must submit to a district-administered test and test negative before returning to the activity. The student will be subject to follow-up drug tests at least one time per month for the next 9 months when school is in session or end upon graduation.

Third Offense

The student will be ineligible to practice or publicly perform in any extracurricular activity for one year from the date of the third positive test or end upon graduation. The day of the positive test result received by the district shall be the first day for counting purposes.

The student must submit to a district-administered test and test negative before returning to the activity. The student will be subject to follow-up drug tests at least one time per month for the next 12 months when school is in session or end upon graduation.

Fourth Offense

The student will be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for the remainder of the student's time at the school district.

10. Refusal to Test: A student who refuses to submit to a drug test authorized under this policy, or fails or refuses to comply with any other provision of this policy, shall not be eligible to participate in any activities covered under this policy including all meetings, practices, performances and competitions for one calendar year.

11. Tampering: Tampering is the use of any agent or technique, which is designed to avoid detection of a drug and/or compromise the integrity of a drug test and is prohibited. This includes providing false urine samples (for example, urine substitution), contaminating the urine sample with chemicals or chemical products, the use of diuretics to dilute urine samples, and the use of masking. If the Drug Program Administrator, the MRO, or the onsite-collecting agent determines that a student tampered with a drug test, they will contact the Drug Testing Coordinator and the student shall not be eligible to participate in any activities covered under this policy including all meetings, practices, performances and competitions for one calendar year.

The use of any such agent or technique shall be treated as a positive test for drugs prohibited by this Policy and shall be subject to the penalties

set forth in Section 9 of this Policy.

12. Maintenance of Records: All results of drug testing shall be confidential, Procedures for maintaining confidentiality will be developed by the school district and the testing organization. The Drug Testing Coordinator shall maintain records of positive tests in a secure location. This information will not be available to anyone other than appropriate school personnel and parents. This information will be destroyed upon the student's graduation or one year after the student's class graduates. Under no circumstances will this information become a part of the student's permanent file, nor will it be sent to another school when the student moves to another district or transfers to another school. The school district will not share drug-testing results with any law enforcement agencies.

13. Appeal: A student participating in extracurricular activities who has been determined by school district officials to be in violation of this policy shall have the right to appeal the decision to the Superintendent or his/her designee(s). The request for a review must be submitted to the Superintendent in writing within five (5) calendar days of notice of the positive test. A student requesting a review will remain eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities until the review is completed. The Superintendent or his/her designee(s), in consultation with the Drug Program Administrator and the Medical Review Officer, shall then determine whether the original finding was justified. No further review of the Superintendent's decision will be provided, and his/her decision shall be final in all respects. Any necessary interpretation or application of this policy shall be in the sole and exclusive judgment and discretion of the Superintendent, which shall be final and non-appealable to the School Board.

14. Severability: If any portion of this policy is deemed to be contrary to the law of the state of Nebraska or the United States by judicial decision or an act of Congress, then only such portion or provision directly deemed to be unconstitutional shall be stricken, and the remainder of the policy shall remain in full force.

Adopted on: 8/12/19

Revised on: 9/16/19, 10/11/21, 8/14/23, 11/10/25

Reviewed on: 7/15/19, 8/12/24

Shelton Public School Activities Handbook Rules and Regulations 2025-2026



210 9th Street
Shelton, NE 68876
Phone: (308) 647-6742

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INTRODUCTION

Student participation in extracurricular activities has been linked to improved attendance, higher academic achievement, and greater student self-confidence and self-esteem. Shelton Public Schools provides students with the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive activities program that includes athletics, fine arts, and select clubs or organizations associated with academic areas.

Although the school district believes strongly in the value of student activities, participation in the activities program is a privilege, not a right. Students must obey the rules set out in this handbook and any additional rules created by their coach or activity sponsor. This handbook is advisory and does not create a “contract” with parents, students, or staff. The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well-being of all students. The administration is responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. If a situation or circumstance arises that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

Please read this handbook carefully. Students and their parents are responsible for complying with all of the rules and procedures detailed in this booklet.

Parents must sign the acknowledgement and permission to participate form at the end of this handbook before their student will be permitted to participate in the activity programs of the district.

The provisions in this handbook are subject to change at the sole discretion of the Board of Education. From time to time, you may receive updated information concerning changes in the handbook. These updates should be kept within the handbook so that it is up to date. If you have any questions regarding this handbook, please contact the Superintendent for assistance.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The school district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The school district prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity in any education program or activity that it operates.

Students who believe that they have been the subject of unlawful discrimination or harassment due to their disability, or that have other related concerns or questions, should contact the Section 504 Coordinator: the School Counselor at 308-647-5459, khubbart@sheltonbulldogs.org or in person at school.

Students who believe that they have been the subject of unlawful discrimination or harassment on the basis of sex, or that have other related concerns or questions, should contact the following Title IX Coordinator: High School Principal at 308-647-5459, ahostetler@sheltonbulldogs.org, 210 9th Street, Shelton, NE 68876 or in person at school. [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#)

Students who believe that they have been the subject of unlawful discrimination or harassment due to their race, color, or national origin, or that have other related concerns or questions, should contact the following Title VI Coordinator: the Superintendent at 308-647-6742, rengel@sheltonbulldogs.org, 210 9th Street, Shelton, NE 68876 or in person at school.

Students who believe that they have been the subject of any other unlawful discrimination or harassment should contact the Superintendent at 308-647-6742, rengel@sheltonbulldogs.org, 210 9th Street, Shelton, NE 68876 or in person at school.

Students may report discrimination or harassment to any staff member who will then forward it on to the appropriate coordinator or administrator. The staff member will follow school district policies to respond to the report.

For additional prohibited discrimination and related information, please review school district Policy 3053 – Nondiscrimination.

SECTION ONE: GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

Academic Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the school's activity programs, each student must (1) meet Nebraska State Activities Association (NSAA) requirements concerning scholastic eligibility, (2) meet the requirements of board policy including all rules applicable to the activity, and (3) have not less than a 70% grade in two or more classes for a period of two weeks to remain eligible to participate in any portion of the activities program. Participants must attend practices and participate in all conditioning during any period of ineligibility.

The school district will notify a participant and his or her parents whenever the participant is declared academically ineligible.

Students may not participate in any activity, performance or practice while serving a short-term out of school suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion from school. Students serving in-school suspension may not participate in performance or competition but may attend practice if deemed appropriate by the principal.

Attendance at Practices and Contests

Participants in the activities program are expected to attend and be on time at all practices and meetings scheduled by the coach or sponsor. Participants may be excused for absences resulting from a participant's illness, a death in the family, a doctor's appointment, a court appearance, or other absences that are arranged in advance. The coach, sponsor, or director of an activity may require a participant who has an excused absence to complete an alternate assignment for missing a practice, meeting, event, performance, or contest. A participant who is unable to attend a scheduled practice, meeting, or game must contact the coach or sponsor in advance. Students who are absent from school due to illness are not required to provide the coach or sponsor with additional notification of the student's absence from practice.

Students who are absent from school for any part of the day will not be permitted to practice or participate in an athletic contest or activity performance unless the student has the building principal's prior permission to participate despite the absence. Students who are ill must attend school for 6th, 7th, and 8th period to be eligible to participate in a contest.

If a participant misses a scheduled contest or performance, the coach or sponsor may impose discipline up to and including suspension of the

participant from the activity for the remainder of the season or length of the activity.

Closings

Unless the administration determines that it is permissible for the activity to continue as scheduled, all activities will be canceled or postponed in the event that school has been called off for inclement weather or any other reason as determined by the administration. Unless the administration determines that it is permissible for the activity to continue as scheduled.

Colors

The Shelton School colors are blue and white.

Complaint Procedure

To reduce conflicts in the school's activities program, students and/or their parents should use the district's formal complaint procedure to manage conflicts about the program. The complaint procedure is printed in the school's student handbook and may be found on the district's web site: www.sheltonbulldogs.org/

Concussion Awareness

The Nebraska Unicameral has found that concussions are one of the "most commonly reported injuries in children and adolescents who participate in sports and recreational activities and that the risk of catastrophic injury or death is significant when a concussion or brain injury is not properly evaluated and managed."

The School District will:

- a. Require all coaches and trainers to complete one of the following on-line courses once every three years per NSAA guidelines on how to recognize the symptoms of a concussion or brain injury and how to seek proper medical treatment for a concussion or brain injury:
 - Heads UP Concussions in Youth Sports
 - Concussion in Sports—What You Need to Know
 - Sports Safety International
 - ConcussionWise
 - ACTive™ Athletic Concussion Training for Coaches; and
- b. On an annual basis provide concussion and brain injury information to students and their parents or guardians prior to such students initiating practice or competition. This information will include:
 - 1 The signs and symptoms of a concussion;

- 2 The risks posed by sustaining a concussion; and
- 3 The actions a student should take in response to sustaining a concussion, including the notification of his or her coaches.

A student who participates on a school athletic team must be removed from a practice or game when he/she is reasonably suspected of having sustained a concussion or brain injury in such practice or game after observation by a coach or a licensed health care professional who is professionally affiliated with or contracted by the school. The student will not be permitted to participate in any school supervised team athletic activities involving physical exertion, including practices or games, until the student:

- a. has been evaluated by a licensed healthcare professional;
- b. has received written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities from the licensed healthcare professional; and
- c. has submitted the written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities to the school accompanied by written permission to resume participation from the student's parent or guardian.

If a student is reasonably suspected after observation of having sustained a concussion or brain injury and is removed from an athletic activity, the parent or guardian of the student will be notified by the school of:

- a. the date and approximate time of the injury suffered by the student,
- b. the signs and symptoms of a concussion or brain injury that were observed, and
- c. any actions taken to treat the student.

The school district will not provide for the presence of a licensed health care professional at any practice or game.

School officials shall deem the signature of an individual who represents that he/she is a licensed health care professional on a written clearance to resume participation that is provided to the school to be conclusive and reliable evidence that the individual who signed the clearance is a licensed healthcare professional. The school will not take any additional or independent steps to verify the individual's qualifications.

Dances

School dances are part of the district's extracurricular activity program. Students who wish to participate in school dances must comply with the activity code. Students may be prohibited from participating in school dances as a consequence for violating school rules or these activity rules.

Junior High/Middle School Dances

Junior high/middle school (7-8) dances are restricted to students currently enrolled in the junior high school and will be sponsored by junior high teachers and parents. Any organization wishing to sponsor a junior high dance must obtain permission from the principal regarding date and times. Each dance must be sponsored by at least one faculty member. Once admitted to the dance, students must remain until the close of the dance. Students who leave the dance will not be readmitted. Students who are academically ineligible will not be allowed to attend school dances.

High School Dances

All high school dances are restricted to students in grades 7-12 students and their guests. Any organization wishing to sponsor a dance must obtain permission from the principal regarding date and times. Each dance must be sponsored by at least one faculty member. Once admitted to the dance, students must remain until the close of the dance. Students who leave the dance will not be readmitted. Students who are academically ineligible will not be allowed to attend school dances.

Homecoming and Prom

The Homecoming dance is open to 7-12 grade students and guests of Shelton High School.

The Junior/Senior Prom is open to students and guests of the Shelton High School junior and senior classes. Guests must follow all rules that the students must follow. Each student is responsible for his/her guest's conduct. Appropriate attire is required for these dances.

Electronic Communication

The school board supports the use of technology by coaches, extracurricular sponsors, and other staff members to communicate with students for legitimate educational, extracurricular, and other school-related purposes. However, electronic communication between students and teachers, sponsors, and coaches shall be appropriate at all times and shall not violate any law, district policies, or the Regulations and Standards for Professional Practices Criteria, commonly known as Rule 27 of the Nebraska Department of Education ("Rule 27"). The district uses SportsYou for communication between coaches, activity sponsors, and parents. Please see the Social Media Policy For School District Employees for further explanation.

Equipment

Each participant in the athletic portion of the activities program will be issued a locker to store his/her personal belongings and school equipment that has been checked out. Students should secure their athletic lockers with combination locks.

School-owned clothing or equipment that is checked out to individual students remains the property of the school. The clothing or equipment is not to be used or worn by the student except for the intended use. Each piece of equipment or clothing is to be returned to the instructor or coach when the season or the use for such clothing or equipment is over. Each participant is responsible for all equipment checked out to him/her. Students will be assessed the replacement cost for school equipment that has been checked out to him/her and is lost or stolen.

Fundraising

All school-sponsored fundraising activities must be approved by a member of the school district administration. Fundraising for any activity must comply with the district's policies, including applicable provisions specifically pertaining to Booster Clubs and PTOs for non-school-sponsored fundraising. Use of the school mascot shall not be permitted unless approved by the superintendent. [New Fundraiser Permission Forms](#)

Individual Training Rules and Rules of Conduct

Head coaches or sponsors may develop additional training rules or rules of conduct for their activity. Students are responsible for knowing these rules and complying with them.

Initiations and Hazing

Initiations and hazing by members of classes, clubs, athletic teams, or any other organization affiliated with the district are prohibited except as otherwise permitted by this policy. Any student engaging in hazing or non-approved initiations is subject to discipline as permitted by policy and law.

Initiations are defined as any ritualistic expectations, requirements, or activities placed upon new members of a school organization for the purpose of admission into the organization, even if those activities do not rise to the level of "hazing" as defined below. Initiations are prohibited except by permission of the superintendent.

Hazing is defined as any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of an individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued

membership in any school organization. Hazing activities include, but are not limited to, whipping, beating, branding, an act of sexual penetration, an exposure of the genitals of the body done with the intent to affront or alarm any person, a lewd fondling or caressing of the body of another person, forced and prolonged calisthenics, prolonged exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or harmful substance not generally intended for human consumption, prolonged sleep deprivation, or any brutal treatment or the performance of any unlawful act that endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person.

Injuries

Participants who suffer any type of injury while involved in extracurricular activities must notify the coach or sponsor immediately. The coach or sponsor will then evaluate the injury and, if necessary, notify the participant's parents or seek immediate medical treatment.

If at any time during participation a doctor removes an athlete from participation because of an illness or injury, the athlete must have a written release from a doctor before participating again. The written release must be given to the coach or sponsor of the activity.

Note: The release requirement will be satisfied if the initial doctor's order specifies the duration of the student's restriction from participation and/or competition. Also see Concussion Awareness above.

Insurance

The school district does not provide medical or other insurance coverage for students who participate in athletic contests or other activities. It is the parents' responsibility to provide adequate insurance to cover any medical expenses that may be incurred while the student is participating in athletics or other activities.

The school district makes an accident insurance plan available for purchase by participants and their families through an authorized insurance agent. Information about policies which families may purchase will be available prior to each sports season and at fall registration.

Lettering Requirements

The following guidelines will be used in determining students' eligibility for lettering:

Football: The athlete must participate in twelve quarters of varsity play, complete the season in good standing, and/or have the recommendation of the head coach.

Volleyball: The athlete must compete in 2 sets in 45% of the varsity matches during the regular season games, and/or have the recommendation of the head coach.

Cross Country: The athlete must medal at a meet, or compete at the varsity level (top 5 of the team) for ½ of the varsity invites, as well as complete the season in good standing.

Boys Basketball: The athlete must participate in at least one quarter of 50% of the games on the schedule, end the season in good standing, and/or have the recommendation of the head coach.

Girls Basketball: The athlete must be a part of the regular rotation in varsity games, and end the season in good standing, and/or have the recommendation of the head coach.

Track: The athlete must score in at least two meets, which includes relays, as well as complete the season in good standing.

Boys Wrestling: Be of good character, a teammate, and team player. Must adhere to all team rules and regulations set forth by the coach. Be a positive force and contribute to the team's success. Earn 10 points, along with attending practices and meets, and complete the season in good standing.

Girls Wrestling: The athlete must score 40 team points in tournaments, place in the top 4 at a major event and finish the season in good standing, as determined by the coaching staff.

Student Managers: The student manager must complete the season and have the recommendation of the head coach of the sport involved.

Speech: The criteria for receiving a letter for Speech Competition will be based on the participant's commitment to preparation and participation. **LETTERING:** To letter in speech, you must 1. Practice every week AND participate in at least four regular season tournaments or 2. Practice every week AND place at a tournament. (*Practice every week means attending the regular Monday practices or scheduling (and attending) a practice with Mrs. Pope at a different time.*)

One-Act: The participant be an active participant in a minimum of two productions, while demonstrating leadership, cooperation, respect (of director and other cast/crew) and perseverance during the production season. They must also complete the season in good standing.

Mascot

The official emblem for boys' and girls' athletic teams is the Bulldog. The mascot cannot be used for non-school-sponsored purposes unless approved by the superintendent.

Practices

The individual head coach or sponsor, in cooperation with the high school principal, will schedule all starting times of practices. All participants are expected to be ready at the time set by the coach or sponsor.

To be eligible to practice, a participant must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Submit to the coach or sponsor a signed physical form and Activities Code that verifies that a physical examination has been completed and that the student and parent(s) understand the school's position regarding the use or possession of alcohol, tobacco, and other related drugs.

Secret Organizations

Secret organizations are prohibited. School officials shall not allow any person or representative of any such organization to enter upon school grounds or school buildings for the purpose of rushing or soliciting students to participate in any secret fraternity, society, or association.

Student Manager, Helpers, or Activity Aids

Students wishing to serve as student volunteers for extracurricular activities must gain the permission of the activity coach or sponsor. Student volunteers must comply with all of the rules and procedures contained in this handbook. Each team will be allowed up to 3 student managers. If the team has 20 or more participants on the team, the team may be allowed a 4th student manager.

Sunday and Wednesday Night Activities

In order to provide students sufficient time away from school for family-related activities, the school will endeavor not to schedule activities on Wednesday evenings or on Sundays. Practices will be organized so that all participants are showered, dressed, and/or leave the facilities by 6:00 p.m.

on Wednesday nights. An exception to this guideline would be when a team, group of students, or an individual may be required to participate in an activity sponsored by the conference, district, or state on a Wednesday night.

The school does not allow Sunday practice sessions, except when a varsity team, group of students, or individual is scheduled to compete or perform on a Monday. Practices scheduled for a Sunday must have the prior approval of the activities director or building principal.

Transportation

All participants are expected to ride to and from away activities by means of approved school transportation.

A participant may ride home with his or her parent/guardian only if there is previously approved parent/guardian written permission, or the parent/guardian signs off with the coach at the event. A participant may ride home with an adult if the participant's parent/guardian has personally contacted the respective coach/sponsor prior to the activity and the adult personally contacts the sponsor at the activity prior to leaving with the student. Parents are discouraged from requesting to take their children home after an away contest or performance. Travel to and from an event provides time for the students to further develop a strong team concept.

Weight Room

The weight room has been developed to help each athlete, student, or adult in the community maintain a level of physical fitness. **No one may use the weight room or equipment without proper supervision.** The school will develop a schedule for use of the weight room by athletes during the school year and during the summer months.

The weight room is a high demand area within the school facilities. The following guidelines will help determine the priorities in reference to use if more than one group desires to use the facility at the same time:

1. Physical education instruction
2. By the team sports, which are in season
3. Conditioning programs for athletes not currently out for a sport
4. Summer conditioning programs
5. Adult education

SECTION TWO: AVAILABLE ACTIVITIES

Athletic Teams

Basketball (boys and girls)
Cross County (boys and girls)
Football
Track (boys and girls)
Volleyball
Wrestling (boys and girls)
Golf (boys)

Art Club

Membership is open to those students who wish to work on out of class projects such as painting windows in classrooms and painting pictures and designs on the art room walls.

Band

The school district sponsors marching band and concert band. Participants must be enrolled in band class in order to be eligible to participate in these groups.

Cheer Squad

Participants are selected by the sponsor(s) or judges appointed by the sponsor. Members of the cheer squad will attend all home and selected away athletic contests.

One Act

The One Act is open to all students interested in any aspect of theater and offers varying levels of involvement. The main focus of this club is to produce a competitive one act team that will participate in conference and district productions.

Future Farmers of America (FFA)

FFA is an integral part of the agricultural education department and all students of that department are urged to belong. The activities include training in leadership, opportunities for travel and recreation, and safety and community service activities. Students may participate in field trips, conventions, judging contests, and hands-on experience.

National Honor Society

The National Honor Society is a national organization that recognizes student character, scholarship, leadership, and service to the school.

Eligibility:

1. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior class.
2. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of one semester at Shelton High School.
3. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative average of 91%. This scholastic level of achievement shall remain fixed, and shall be the required minimum level of scholastic achievement for admission to candidacy.
4. All students who can rise in scholarship to or above such standard may be admitted to candidacy for selection to membership.
5. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.
6. All candidates are selected by the selection committee based on these criteria, service, character, and leadership.

Student Council

The purpose of student council is to arouse the spirit of loyalty toward the school, to promote good citizenship, to sponsor school activities, to extend the spirit of good fellowship throughout the student body, to foster a spirit of cooperation between the students and faculty, and to seek to develop a spirit of cooperation, good will, and better understanding with other schools. The organization, operation, and scope of the student council shall be administered by the Superintendent or designee.

Spanish Club

The Spanish Club is designed to give students an opportunity to develop their knowledge of different Spanish speaking cultures. Members of the club are also interested in becoming involved with the Spanish speaking community in the area.

Speech Team

Students compete in 10 different categories of competition. These include individual events- interpretation of Humorous Prose, Interpretation of Serious Prose, Poetry, Persuasive, Entertainment, Extemporaneous, Informative, and Program of Oral Interpretation; Group Events - Oral Interpretation of Drama, and Duet Acting.

Journalism

The yearbook is published by the Journalism class along with the help of its teacher. The annual is financed partially by funds raised from the sale of the books.

SECTION THREE: CODE OF CONDUCT

All students associated with Shelton Public Schools and participating in extracurricular or school-sponsored activities (including all NSAA activities) are required to avoid conduct that is detrimental to the integrity of, and public confidence in, the school. Rules promoting lawful, ethical, and responsible conduct serve the interests of all people associated with the school. Illegal and irresponsible conduct puts people at risk, tarnishes the reputation of the offender and everyone else associated with the school, and undermines the public support and respect of the school district.

Standard of Conduct. Participation in school-sponsored or extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Participants must follow board policy, this code, and all the training rules and rules of conduct of the coaches and/or activity sponsors. Students participating in school-sponsored or extracurricular activities are held to a high standard. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a way that is lawful, responsible, promotes the values upon which the school is based, and that brings credit to themselves and the school. Students who fail to live up to the required standard of conduct are guilty of detrimental conduct and subject to discipline under all school policies, the general student code of conduct, and these Activity Participation Rules.

Coach and Sponsor Rules. Coaches and/or activity sponsors shall establish training rules or rules of conduct for participation in or attendance at the activity or event. General training rules or rules of conduct shall be established prior to the activity or event. This Code shall control in the event that there is a conflict with coach or sponsor rules.

Prohibited Conduct. Students in school-sponsored and/or extracurricular activities may not engage in the following conduct:

1. Receipt of a criminal citation by law enforcement for any reason.
2. Conviction of a crime in adult court or the adjudication of a criminal charge in juvenile court.
3. Any behavior that is illegal under the laws of Nebraska or the United States of America regardless of whether it results in a criminal charge or conviction.
4. Any conduct that substantially interferes with the educational process or disrupts the activity or event.
5. Possession, consumption, use, distribution, or being under the influence of alcohol, illicit drugs, tobacco, controlled substances, or any lookalike or imitations thereof; or being in the presence of alcohol, illicit drugs,

controlled substances, or any lookalike or imitations thereof that are being possessed, consumed, used, or distributed by any person under twenty-one (21) years of age without parental supervision. "Lookalike or imitations" means substances such as K2 and products like electronic nicotine delivery systems, vapor pens, etc. (Note: the term "under the influence" for school purposes has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the use or abuse of any substance for the purpose of inducing a condition of intoxication, stupefaction, depression, giddiness, paralysis, inebriation, excitement, or irrational behavior, or in any manner changing, distorting, or disturbing the auditory, visual, mental, or nervous processes).

6. Engaging in initiations, defined as any ritualistic expectations, requirements, or activities placed upon new members of a school organization for the purpose of admission into the organization, even if those activities do not rise to the level of "hazing" as defined below. Initiations are prohibited except by permission of the superintendent.
7. Engaging in hazing as defined by state law and this policy. Hazing is defined as any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of an individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership in any school organization. Under state criminal law, hazing activities include, but are not limited to, whipping, beating, branding, an act of sexual penetration, an exposure of the genitals of the body done with the intent to affront or alarm any person, a lewd fondling or caressing of the body of another person, forced and prolonged calisthenics, prolonged exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or harmful substance not generally intended for human consumption, prolonged sleep deprivation, or any brutal treatment or the performance of any unlawful act that endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person. For purposes of school rules, hazing also includes any activity expected of someone joining a group, team, or activity that humiliates, degrades or risks emotional and/or physical harm, regardless of the person's willingness to participate; personal servitude; restrictions on personal hygiene; yelling, swearing and insulting new members/newcomers; being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public; consumption of vile substances or smearing of such on one's skin; binge drinking and drinking games; sexual simulation and sexual assault.
8. Bullying which shall include cyber-bullying, defined as the use of the internet, including but not limited to social networking sites such as Facebook, cell phones or other devices to send, post, or text message

images and material intended to hurt or embarrass another person. This may include, but is not limited to; continuing to send email to someone who has said they want no further contact with the sender; sending or posting threats, sexual remarks, or pejorative labels (i.e., hate speech); ganging up on victims by making them the subject of ridicule in forums; posting false statements as fact intended to humiliate the victim; disclosure of personal data, such as the victim's real name, address, or school at websites or forums; posing as the identity of the victim for the purpose of publishing material in their name that defames or ridicules them; sending threatening and harassing text, instant messages, or emails to the victims; and posting or sending rumors or gossip to instigate others to dislike and gang up on the target.

9. Using any Internet or social networking websites to make statements, post pictures, or take any other actions that are indecent, vulgar, lewd, slanderous, abusive, threatening, harassing, or terrorizing.
10. Violating any school policy, handbook provision, or a coach's or activity sponsor's training rules or rules of conduct.
11. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is (A) dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others, (B) lewd, indecent, vulgar, or plainly offensive, (C) materially and substantially disruptive to the work and discipline of the school or an extracurricular activity, (D) interpreted to advocate the use of illegal drugs or other substances by a reasonable observer.
12. Failing to report for an activity at the beginning of a season unless excused by the coach or activity sponsor.
13. Failing to attend scheduled practices and meetings unless excused by the coach or activity sponsor.

(Activity Season): Such conduct is prohibited during the activity season, regardless of whether it occurs on-campus or off-campus. Activity season means that period commencing on the first day of an activity practice through the last day of the season or the last scheduled event.

Discipline. Students who violate any provision of these Activity Participation Rules may be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion from extracurricular activities and school sponsored events. (including but not limited to graduation ceremony and related activities). See student discipline policy and extracurricular drug testing policy. These disciplinary consequences and this Activity Code of Conduct are in addition to and do not prejudice, diminish, impede, or reduce any discipline that is authorized by the Nebraska Student Discipline Act, NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 79-254 to 79-294, Board Policy, or the Student Handbook. Disciplinary action may include a probationary period and conditions that must be satisfied prior to or following

reinstatement. Administrators and coaches will take the following into consideration when making disciplinary decisions:

1. Any prior or additional misconduct;
2. The nature and seriousness of the offense;
3. The motivation for the offense;
4. The amount of violence involved;
5. The student's demeanor and attitude regarding the violation;
6. The actual, threatened, or potential risk to the student and others due to the student's behavior;
7. Whether the student has compensated or will compensate the victim in the event of property damage or personal injury;
8. Whether the circumstances of the violation are likely to recur;
9. The student's willingness to participate in evaluations, counseling, or other programs;
10. Any mitigating factors;
11. Any other relevant factors.

The failure to comply with the discipline requirements will make the student ineligible for reinstatement to the activity.

Sportsmanship, Ethics, and Integrity.

The Board of Education of Shelton recognizes the value of extracurricular activities in the educational process and the values that students may develop when they have an opportunity to participate in organized activities outside of the traditional classroom.

Student participants and district appointed sponsors involved with school board and/or school approved extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate the same level of responsibility and behavior at practice, competitions, and extracurricular events as is expected in the classroom. School district representatives and students are responsible for maintaining sportsmanlike behavior, exhibiting ethical conduct, and demonstrating integrity. The Board of Education of Shelton 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 support/booster groups.

Spectators are permitted to attend extracurricular activities only 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 activities. Spectators, like the student participants, are expected to display mature behavior and sportsmanship. The failure of spectators to do so is not only disruptive but also embarrassing to the students, the school district and the entire community.

Any spectator, including adults, who behave in a manner that is not consistent with school district expectations and this policy, may be removed from the event by security personnel, school officials, or by the individual 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. School officials shall send a notice of exclusion from future extracurricular activities to the spectator involved. Such notice is to be provided from the activities director and /or the respective building principal. Due process shall be provided in accordance with school district policies and shall include the opportunity for a hearing with school officials. In the event the spectator removed or denied future admittance is a student from a visiting school, an effort will be made to work with the administration of the visiting school with respect to future exclusion.

The district shall also have full authority to invoke penalties or pursue legal action as consistent with district rules, regulations, school board policies, and Nebraska and Federal laws.

To protect the rights of students to participate without fear of interference, and to permit the sponsors and officials of extracurricular activities to perform their duties without interference, the following provisions are in effect, but not limited to:

1. Abusive, verbal or physical conduct of spectators directed at participants, officials or sponsors or extracurricular activities or conduct that interferes with the administration of the extracurricular activity will not be tolerated.
2. The use of vulgar or obscene language directed at students, officials or sponsors participating in an extracurricular activity or at other spectators will not be tolerated.

Student and Coach Sportsmanship

Student and coach conduct is a reflection of the climate and culture of the school district. As a result, students and coaches are expected to display sportsmanship at all times. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as a technical or unsportsmanlike call from a game official.

Students who demonstrate unsportsmanlike conduct will be subject to the following consequences:

An unsportsmanlike technical foul is not a technical foul due to a game rules violation. It is due to unsportsmanlike conduct during a competition.

- The first unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in a meeting with the coach to review sportsmanship expectations. The athlete will complete an online sportsmanship course.
- The second unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in the athlete being benched for the remainder of the game and for the game immediately following the unsportsmanlike conduct.
- The third unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in the athlete being removed from the team.

This will reset with each new sports season and will not accumulate.

Coaches who demonstrate unsportsmanlike conduct will be subject to the following consequences:

- The first unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in a meeting with the coach and athletic director to review sportsmanship expectations and complete an online sportsmanship course.
- The second unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in the coach being suspended from coaching the next game in the schedule. The assistant coach will be expected to coach in their place.
- The third unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in the coach being removed from their coaching duties. The assistant coach will be appointed as head coach for the remainder of the season.

This will reset with each new sports season and will not accumulate.

The Board of Education of School District 19, Shelton hereby adopts the following Spectator Code of Sportsmanship Behavior, Ethics, and Integrity.

It is the responsibility of the spectator to:

1. Keep cheers positive. There should be no profanity or degrading language/gestures.

2. Avoid actions that offend visiting teams or individual players.
3. Show appreciation of good play by both teams.
4. Learn the rules of the game in order to be a better-informed spectator.
5. Treat all visiting teams in a manner in which you would expect to be treated.
6. Accept the judgment of coaches and officials.
7. Encourage other spectators to participate in the spirit of good sportsmanship.
8. Obey the instructions of school employees and officials supervising the extracurricular activity.

Evaluation, Counseling, and Treatment. Apart from any other disciplinary procedures, students who violate any provision of these rules may be required to undergo a formal clinical evaluation at the administration's/coach's/sponsor's discretion. Based upon the results of that evaluation, the student may be encouraged or required to participate in an education program, counseling, or other treatment deemed appropriate by the evaluating professional.

Reporting of Incident. Students shall report any violation of these rules to the coach, principal, or superintendent no later than 30 minutes after the beginning of the next school day after the violation has occurred. Failure to report an incident will constitute a violation of these rules and will be taken into consideration in making disciplinary determinations under this policy.

Discipline Procedures. Prior to any disciplinary action under this activities code, the following procedures shall be followed:

As used in this "Discipline Procedures" section, "Investigator" means the coach or activity sponsor of the team or activity in which the student is participating, or any teacher, school official, or school representative whom the Principal or the Superintendent has authorized to perform the duties and responsibilities of "Investigator" as described below.

1. The Investigator shall make an investigation of alleged violation and provide an opportunity for the student to present his or her version of the facts surrounding the alleged violation.
2. The Investigator shall consider all information obtained as a result of the investigation, including information obtained from the student, and shall render a decision regarding disciplinary action. Within a reasonable period of time of the Investigator's decision, the student and his/her parent or guardian shall be given written notice of the disciplinary action taken by the Investigator.

Review of Investigator's Decision. A student or the student's parents may, within five (5) school days of the notice of disciplinary action from the Investigator, notify the superintendent in writing of their request for a review of the coach or activity sponsor's determination. The superintendent or his or her designee shall review the situation and render a decision within three (3) school days from the date of the request for review. The superintendent's decision shall be in writing and shall be final.

Misrepresentations. Any misrepresentation of fact by a student regarding any alleged violation of these rules shall be considered a separate violation of these rules, and the student shall be subject to additional disciplinary action.

Questions. Any parent or student who has questions about board policy, this code, training rules, or rules of conduct of coaches or activity sponsors, or their interpretation or application shall consult with the activities director and/or the superintendent.

Assistance. Students are encouraged to consult with their coach, an administrator, a counselor, or a teacher to obtain access to educational, counseling, and other programs and resources that may be available to help avoid misconduct that may result in discipline under this policy.

A PARENT’S GUIDE TO A CONCUSSION

WHAT IS A CONCUSSION?

A concussion is a brain injury that results in a temporary disruption of normal brain function. A concussion occurs when the brain is violently rocked back and forth or twisted inside the skull as a result of a blow to the head or body. An athlete does not have to lose consciousness (“knocked-out”) to suffer a concussion.

CONCUSSION FACTS

- It is estimated that more than 140,000 high school athletes across the United States suffer a concussion each year. (Data from NFHS Injury Surveillance System).
- Concussions occur most frequently in football, but girl’s lacrosse, girls’ soccer, boy’s lacrosse, wrestling, and girls’ basketball follow closely behind. All athletes are at risk.
- A concussion is a traumatic injury to the brain.
- Concussion symptoms may last from a few days to several months.
- Concussions can cause symptoms that interfere with school, work, and social life.
- Athletes who have symptoms from a concussion should not return to sports because they are still at risk for prolonging symptoms and further injury.
- A concussion may cause multiple symptoms. Many symptoms appear immediately after the injury, while others may develop over the next several days or weeks. The symptoms may be subtle and are often difficult to fully recognize.

WHAT ARE THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF A CONCUSSION?

Signs Observed by Parents or Guardians

- Appears dazed or stunned
- Is confused about assignment or position
- Forgets an instruction
- Is unsure of game, score, or opponent
- Moves clumsily
- Answers questions slowly
- Loses consciousness (even briefly)

- Shows behavior or personality changes
- Can’t recall events prior to hit or fall
- Can’t recall events after hit or fall

Symptoms Reported by Athlete

- Headache or “pressure” in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Double or blurry vision
- Sensitivity to light or noise
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy
- Concentration or memory problems
- Confusion
- Does not “feel right”

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I THINK MY CHILD HAS HAD A CONCUSSION?

An athlete who is suspected of having a concussion must be removed from play immediately, whether it is in a game or practice. Continuing to participate in physical activity after a concussion can lead to worsening concussion symptoms, increased risk of further injury, and even death. Parents and coaches are not expected to be able to “diagnose” a concussion, as that is the job of a medical professional. However, they must be aware of the signs and symptoms of a concussion and if they are suspicious, the child must stop playing:

WHEN IN DOUBT – SIT THEM OUT!

Every athlete who sustains a concussion needs to be evaluated by a health care professional who is familiar with sports concussions. Parents should call their child’s physician, explain what has happened, and follow the physician’s instructions. A child who is vomiting, has a severe headache, or has difficulty staying awake or answering simple questions should be taken to the parent’s doctor or emergency room immediately.

WHEN MAY AN ATHLETE RETURN TO PLAY FOLLOWING A CONCUSSION?

No athlete who has suffered a concussion should return to play or practice the same day. Previously, athletes were allowed to return to play if their symptoms resolved within 15 minutes of the injury. Studies have shown that the young brain does not recover quickly enough for an athlete to return to activity in such a short time.

Concerns about athletes who return to play too quickly have led state lawmakers in Oregon and Washington to pass laws stating that **no athlete shall return to play on the day he or she suffered a concussion and the athlete must be cleared by an appropriate health care professional before he or she are allowed to return to play in games or practices.** The laws also mandate that coaches receive education on recognizing the signs and symptoms of concussion.

Once an athlete is free of symptoms of a concussion and is cleared to return to play by a healthcare professional knowledgeable in the care of sports concussions, he or she should proceed with activity in a step-wise fashion to allow the brain to readjust to exertion. On average, the athlete will complete a new step each day. The return-to-play schedule should proceed as below following medical clearance:

Step 1: Light exercise, including walking or riding an exercise bike. No weight-lifting.

Step 2: Running in the gym or on the field. No helmet or other equipment.

Step 3: Non-contact training drills in full equipment. Weight training can begin.

Step 4: Full contact practice or training.

Step 5: Game play.

If symptoms occur at any step, the athlete should cease activity and be re-evaluated by a health care provider.

HOW CAN A CONCUSSION AFFECT SCHOOLWORK?

Following a concussion, many athletes will have difficulty in school. These problems may last from days to months and often involve difficulties with short and long-term memory, concentration, and organization.

In many cases, it is best to reduce the athlete's class load after the injury. This may include staying home from school for a few days, followed by a lightened schedule for a few days or perhaps a longer period of time if needed. Decreasing the stress on the brain soon after a concussion may reduce symptoms and shorten the recovery period.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Both you and your child should learn to recognize the "Signs and Symptoms" of a concussion as listed above.
- Emphasize to administrators, coaches, teachers, and other parents your concerns and expectations about concussion and safe play.
- Teach your child to tell the coaching staff if he or she experiences such symptoms.
- Teach your child to tell the coaching staff if he or she suspects that a teammate has a concussion.
- Monitor sports equipment for safety, fit, and maintenance.
- Ask teachers to monitor any decrease in grades or changes in behavior that could indicate concussion.
- Report concussions that occurred during the school year to appropriate school staff. This will help in monitoring injured athletes as they move to the next season's sports.

OTHER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Why is it so important that an athlete not return to play until they have completely recovered from a concussion?

An athlete who has not fully recovered from an initial concussion is very vulnerable to recurrent, cumulative, and even catastrophic consequences of a second concussive injury. Such difficulties are prevented if the athlete is allowed time to recover from the concussion and return-to-play decisions are carefully made. No athlete should return to sport or other at-risk participation when symptoms of a concussion are present and recovery is ongoing.

Is a “CT scan” or MRI needed to diagnose a concussion?

Diagnostic testing which includes CT (“CAT”) and MRI scans are rarely needed following a concussion. While these are helpful in identifying life-threatening brain injuries (e.g., skull fracture, bleeding, swelling), they are not normally used, even by athletes who have sustained severe concussions. A concussion is diagnosed based upon the athlete’s story of the injury and the health care provider’s physical examination.

What is the best treatment to help my child recover more quickly from a concussion?

The best treatment for a concussion is rest. There are no medications that can speed the recovery from a concussion. Exposure to loud noises, bright lights, computers, video games, television, and phones (including text messaging) may exacerbate the symptoms of a concussion. You should allow your child to rest as much as possible in the days following a concussion. As the symptoms decrease, you may allow increased use of computers, phone, video games, etc., but the access must be reduced if symptoms worsen.

How long do the symptoms of a concussion usually last?

The symptoms of a concussion will usually go away within one week of the initial injury. You should anticipate that your child will likely be out of sports for about two weeks following a concussion. However, in some cases, symptoms may last for several weeks or even months. Symptoms such as headache, memory problems, poor concentration, and mood changes can interfere with school, work, and social interactions. The potential for such long-term symptoms indicates the need for careful management of all concussions.

How many concussions can an athlete have before he or she should stop playing sports?

There is no “magic number” of concussions that determine when an athlete should give up playing contact or collision sports. The circumstances surrounding each individual injury, such as the way the injury happened and length of symptoms following the concussion are very important and must be considered when assessing the athlete’s risk for further and potentially more serious concussions. The decision to “retire” from sports is a decision best reached following a complete evaluation by your child’s primary care provider and consultation with a physician or neuropsychologist who specializes in treating sports concussion.

I’ve read recently that concussions may cause long-term brain damage in professional football players. Is this a risk for high school athletes who have had a concussion?

The issue of “chronic encephalopathy” in several former NFL players has received a great deal of media attention lately. Very little is known about what may be causing dramatic abnormalities in the brains of these unfortunate retired football players. At this time, we have very little knowledge of the long-term effects of concussions that happen during high school athletics.

In the cases of the retired NFL players, it appears that most had long careers in the NFL after playing in high school and college. In most cases, they played football for over 20 years and suffered multiple concussions in addition to hundreds of other blows to their heads. Alcohol and steroid use may also be contributing factors in some cases. Obviously, the average high school athlete does not come close to suffering the total number or sheer force of head trauma seen by professional football players. However, the fact that we know very little about the long-term effects of concussions in young athletes is further reason to carefully manage each concussion.

Adapted from A Parent’s Guide to Concussion in Sports, National Federation of High School Associations.

Some of this information has been adapted from the CDC’s “Heads Up: Concussion in High School Sports” materials by the NFHS’s Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. See www.cdc.gov/ncipc/tbi/Coaches_Tool_Kit.htm for more information.

AUTHORIZATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WARNING: SERIOUS CATASTROPHIC AND PERHAPS FATAL INJURY MAY RESULT FROM ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Many forms of athletic competition result in violent physical contact among players, the use of equipment that may result in accidents, strenuous physical exertion, and numerous other exposures to risk of injury. Students and parents must assess the risks involved in such participation and make their choice to participate in spite of those risks. No amount of instruction, precaution, or supervision will eliminate these risks. Students have suffered accidents resulting in death, paraplegia, quadriplegia, and other very serious permanent physical impairment while playing sports. By granting permission for your student to participate in athletic competition, you, the parent or guardian, acknowledge that such risk exists. Students will be instructed in proper techniques to be used in athletic competition and in the proper utilization of all equipment worn or used in practice and competition. Students must adhere to that instruction and utilization and must refrain from improper uses and techniques.

I understand the statement above and I understand that by allowing my student to participate in athletic events, I assume the risk that he/she may be injured, perhaps severely.

Signature of Parent

Printed Name of Parent

Date

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CONDUCT CODE

I understand that as a student representing the school district in activities, I am obligated to comply with the athletic handbook, including the code of conduct. **This means that I may not possess, use, or be at parties in the presence of alcohol, illicit drugs, or controlled substances at any time during the school year.** I understand that if I violate the code of conduct or other rules in this handbook, I may be suspended from participation in all co-curricular activities and/or school sponsored activities or events.

Signature of Student

Printed Name of Student

Date

I understand that my student is obligated by this handbook, including the statements above.

Signature of Parent

Printed Name of Parent

Date

Sportsmanship, Ethics, and Integrity.

The Board of Education of Shelton recognizes the value of extracurricular activities in the educational process and the values that students may develop when they have an opportunity to participate in organized activities outside of the traditional classroom.

Student participants and district appointed sponsors involved with school board and/or school approved extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate the same level of responsibility and behavior at practice, competitions, and extracurricular events as is expected in the classroom. School district representatives and students are responsible for maintaining sportsmanlike behavior, exhibiting ethical conduct, and demonstrating integrity. The Board of Education of Shelton 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 support/booster groups.

Spectators are permitted to attend extracurricular activities only 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 activities. Spectators, like the student participants, are expected to display mature behavior and sportsmanship. The failure of spectators to do so is not only disruptive but also embarrassing to the students, the school district and the entire community.

Any spectator, including adults, who behave in a manner that is not consistent with school district expectations and this policy, may be removed from the event by security personnel, school officials, or by the individual 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. School officials shall send a notice of exclusion from future extracurricular activities to the spectator involved. Such notice is to be provided from the activities director and /or the respective building principal. Due process shall be provided in accordance with school district policies and shall include the opportunity for a hearing with school officials. In the event the spectator removed or denied future admittance is a student from a visiting school, an effort will be made to work with the administration of the visiting school with respect to future exclusion.

The district shall also have full authority to invoke penalties or pursue legal action as consistent with district rules, regulations, school board policies, and Nebraska and Federal laws.

To protect the rights of students to participate without fear of interference, and to permit the sponsors and officials of extracurricular activities to perform their duties without interference, the following provisions are in effect, but not limited to:

1. Abusive, verbal or physical conduct of spectators directed at participants, officials or sponsors or extracurricular activities or conduct that interferes with the administration of the extracurricular activity will not be tolerated.
2. The use of vulgar or obscene language directed at students, officials or sponsors participating in an extracurricular activity or at other spectators will not be tolerated.

Student and Coach Sportsmanship

Student and coach conduct is a reflection of the climate and culture of the school district. As a result, students and coaches are expected to display sportsmanship at all times. Unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as a technical or unsportsmanlike call from a game official.

Students who demonstrate unsportsmanlike conduct will be subject to the following consequences:

An unsportsmanlike technical foul is not a technical foul due to a game rules violation. It is due to unsportsmanlike conduct during a competition.

- The first unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in a meeting with the coach to review sportsmanship expectations. The athlete will complete an online sportsmanship course.
- The second unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in the athlete being benched for the remainder of the game and for the game immediately following the unsportsmanlike conduct.
- The third unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in the athlete being removed from the team.

This will reset with each new sports season and will not accumulate.

Coaches who demonstrate unsportsmanlike conduct will be subject to the following consequences:

- The first unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in a meeting with the coach and athletic director to review sportsmanship expectations and complete an online sportsmanship course.
- The second unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in the coach being suspended from coaching the next game in the schedule. The assistant coach will be expected to coach in their place.
- The third unsportsmanlike technical foul will result in the coach being removed from their coaching duties. The assistant coach will be appointed as head coach for the remainder of the season.

This will reset with each new sports season and will not accumulate.

The Board of Education of School District 19, Shelton hereby adopts the following Spectator Code of Sportsmanship Behavior, Ethics, and Integrity.

It is the responsibility of the spectator to:

1. Keep cheers positive. There should be no profanity or degrading language/gestures.
2. Avoid actions that offend visiting teams or individual players.
3. Show appreciation of good play by both teams.
4. Learn the rules of the game in order to be a better-informed spectator.
5. Treat all visiting teams in a manner in which you would expect to be treated.
6. Accept the judgment of coaches and officials.
7. Encourage other spectators to participate in the spirit of good sportsmanship.
8. Obey the instructions of school employees and officials supervising the extracurricular activity.

Evaluation, Counseling, and Treatment. Apart from any other disciplinary procedures, students who violate any provision of these rules may be required to undergo a formal clinical evaluation at the administration's/coach's/sponsor's discretion. Based upon the results of that evaluation, the student may be encouraged or required to participate in an education program, counseling, or other treatment deemed appropriate by the evaluating professional.

Reporting of Incident. Students shall report any violation of these rules to the coach, principal, or superintendent no later than 30 minutes

after the beginning of the next school day after the violation has occurred. Failure to report an incident will constitute a violation of these rules and will be taken into consideration in making disciplinary determinations under this policy.

Discipline Procedures. Prior to any disciplinary action under this activities code, the following procedures shall be followed:

As used in this "Discipline Procedures" section, "Investigator" means the coach or activity sponsor of the team or activity in which the student is participating, or any teacher, school official, or school representative whom the Principal or the Superintendent has authorized to perform the duties and responsibilities of "Investigator" as described below.

1. The Investigator shall make an investigation of alleged violation and provide an opportunity for the student to present his or her version of the facts surrounding the alleged violation.
2. The Investigator shall consider all information obtained as a result of the investigation, including information obtained from the student, and shall render a decision regarding disciplinary action. Within a reasonable period of time of the Investigator's decision, the student and his/her parent or guardian shall be given written notice of the disciplinary action taken by the Investigator.

Review of Investigator's Decision. A student or the student's parents may, within five (5) school days of the notice of disciplinary action from the Investigator, notify the superintendent in writing of their request for a review of the coach or activity sponsor's determination. The superintendent or his or her designee shall review the situation and render a decision within three (3) school days from the date of the request for review. The superintendent's decision shall be in writing and shall be final.

Misrepresentations. Any misrepresentation of fact by a student regarding any alleged violation of these rules shall be considered a separate violation of these rules, and the student shall be subject to additional disciplinary action.

Questions. Any parent or student who has questions about board policy, this code, training rules, or rules of conduct of coaches or activity sponsors, or their interpretation or application shall consult with the activities director and/or the superintendent.

Assistance. Students are encouraged to consult with their coach, an administrator, a counselor, or a teacher to obtain access to educational, counseling, and other programs and resources that may be available to help avoid misconduct that may result in discipline under this policy.

6025
Student Cell Phone and Other Electronic Devices

Students may use cell phones or other electronic devices while at school, so long as they do so safely, responsibly and respectfully and comply with all other school rules while using these devices.

By bringing their cell phones and other electronic communication devices to school, students consent to the search of said devices by school staff when permitted by law.

Students may not have cell phones or electronic devices on while they are in locker rooms, restrooms, or any other area in which others may have a reasonable expectation of privacy.

The taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (including things like texting, sexting, emailing, etc.) may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law. Any person engaged in these activities while on school grounds, in a school vehicle or at a school activity will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the student code of conduct.

While on school property, at a school activity, or in a school vehicle, students may not use their cell phones or electronic devices to bully, harass, or intimidate any other person as governed by the student code of conduct.

Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their electronic devices. The district is not responsible for theft, loss or damage of any electronic device, including any calls or downloads.

Students who violate this policy may have their cell phones or electronic devices confiscated immediately. The administration will return confiscated devices to the parent or guardian of the offending student, after meeting with the parent or guardian to discuss the rule violation. Students who violate this policy may, at the discretion of the school's administration, be subject to additional discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

Adopted on: 7/17/23

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: 7/15/24, 9/10/25

6025
Student Cell Phone and Other Electronic Devices

[THIS POLICY CONTAINS SEVERAL OPTIONS. THERE ARE MORE PERMISSIVE OPTIONS AND MORE RESTRICTIVE OPTIONS. YOU SHOULD SELECT AND MAKE ANY NECESSARY CHANGES TO ONLY ONE OPTION AND DELETE THE REST]

(USE AT SCHOOL OPTION)

Students may use cell phones or other electronic devices while at school, so long as they do so safely, responsibly and respectfully and comply with all other school rules while using these devices.

By bringing their cell phones and other electronic communication devices to school, students consent to the search of said devices by school staff when permitted by law.

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Students who violate this policy may have their cell phones or electronic devices confiscated immediately. The administration will return confiscated devices to the parent or guardian of the offending student, after meeting with the parent or guardian to discuss the rule violation. Students who violate this policy may, at the discretion of the school's administration, be subject to additional discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

(ONLY BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL AND DURING PASSING AND LUNCH OPTION)

Students are prohibited from using cellular phones or other electronic devices while at school, except as provided in this policy or as deemed appropriate by a student's education team.

Students may use cell phones or other electronic devices on school sidewalks and in the common areas of the school before and after school, during passing periods, and during lunch so long as they do not create a distraction or a disruption and comply with all other policies and handbook provisions.

By bringing their cell phones and other electronic communication devices to school, students consent to the search of said devices by school staff when the staff determines that such a search is reasonable or necessary.

Students may not have cell phones or electronic devices while they are in locker rooms, classrooms, or restrooms. During school hours student cell phones or electronic devices must remain in lockers, backpacks, or be locked in a personal vehicle. Students may use cell phones or other technology in classrooms only with the express permission of the classroom teacher.

Students are strictly prohibited from sending, sharing, viewing, or possessing pictures, text messages, emails or other material of a sexual nature in electronic or any other form on a computer, cell phone, or other electronic device while at school. Students who possess prohibited material on their cell phone or other electronic device while at school shall be subject to disciplinary consequences as articulated by the student handbook.

Students may not use cell phones or electronic communication devices while riding in school vehicles, including listening to music, unless they have permission to do so from the driver or other adult responsible for their supervision.

Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones and pagers. The district is not responsible for theft, loss or damage of a cell phone or any calls made on a cell phone.

Students who violate this policy or other school rules will have their cell phones or electronic devices confiscated immediately. The administration will return confiscated devices to the parent or guardian of the offending student, after discussing the rule violation with the student and parent or guardian. Students who violate this policy may, at the discretion of the

school's administration, be subject to additional discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

(YONDR BAG OR OTHER STORAGE SYSTEM OPTION)

Students may use cellular phones or other electronic devices while at school, so long as they do so safely, responsibly and respectfully and comply with all other school rules while using these devices.

By bringing their cell phones and other electronic communication devices to school, students consent to the search of said devices by school staff when permitted by law.

Students may not have cell phones or electronic devices on while they are in locker rooms, restrooms, or any other area in which others may have a reasonable expectation of privacy.

Students may not use cellular phones in any classroom unless deemed appropriate by a student's education team. [INSERT YOUR STORAGE SYSTEM HERE; FOR EXAMPLE: The District will provide each student with a Yondr bag, and students must lock their cellular phone in the Yondr bag upon entering a classroom. The student may unlock the bag upon exiting the classroom at the end of the class period.]

The taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise (including things like texting, sexting, e-mailing, etc.) may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law. Any person engaged in these activities while on school grounds, in a school vehicle or at a school activity will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the student code of conduct.

While on school property, at a school activity, or in a school vehicle, students may not use their cell phones or electronic devices to bully, harass, or intimidate any other person as governed by the student code of conduct.

Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their electronic devices. The district is not responsible for theft, loss or damage of any electronic device, including or any calls or downloads.

Students who violate this policy may have their cell phones or electronic devices confiscated immediately. The administration will return confiscated devices to the parent or guardian of the offending student, after meeting with the parent or guardian to discuss the rule violation. Students who

violate this policy may, at the discretion of the school's administration, be subject to additional discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

(COMPLETE BAN OPTION)

Students may NOT use cellular phones or other electronic devices while at school during school hours.

Any student who is found to be in possession of any cellular phone, or other electronic device (AirPods, personally-owned tablet, gaming device, etc.) during school hours is in violation of this policy and the student code of conduct.

Staff who discover students in possession of a cellular phone or electronic device while at school during the school day will immediately confiscate the device and turn it into the administration.

In addition to the disciplinary consequences imposed, a parent or legal guardian of the offending student must pick up the confiscated devices from the office in person. The administration will return the device to the parent or guardian, after meeting with the parent or guardian to discuss the rule violation.

Students who repeatedly violate this policy may, at the discretion of the school's administration, be subject to additional discipline, up to and including expulsion.

Adopted on: _____

Revised on: _____

Reviewed on: _____

6025
Student Cell Phone and Other Electronic Devices

[THIS POLICY CONTAINS SEVERAL OPTIONS. THERE ARE MORE PERMISSIVE OPTIONS AND MORE RESTRICTIVE OPTIONS. YOU SHOULD SELECT AND MAKE ANY NECESSARY CHANGES TO ONLY ONE OPTION AND DELETE THE REST]

(USE AT SCHOOL OPTION)

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By bringing their cell phones and other electronic communication devices to school, students consent to the search of said devices by school staff when permitted by law.

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While on school property, at a school activity, or in a school vehicle, students may not use their cell phones or electronic devices to bully, harass, or intimidate any other person as governed by the student code of conduct.

Students shall be personally and solely responsible for the security of their electronic devices. The district is not responsible for theft, loss or damage of any electronic device, including any calls or downloads.

Students who violate this policy may have their cell phones or electronic devices confiscated immediately. The administration will return confiscated devices to the parent or guardian of the offending student, after meeting with the parent or guardian to discuss the rule violation. Students who violate this policy may, at the discretion of the school's administration, be subject to additional discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

(ONLY BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL AND DURING PASSING AND LUNCH OPTION)

Students are prohibited from using cellular phones or other electronic devices while at school, except as provided in this policy or as deemed appropriate by a student's education team.

Students may use cell phones or other electronic devices on school sidewalks and in the common areas of the school before and after school, during passing periods, and during lunch so long as they do not create a distraction or a disruption and comply with all other policies and handbook provisions.

By bringing their cell phones and other electronic communication devices to school, students consent to the search of said devices by school staff when the staff determines that such a search is reasonable or necessary.

Students may not have cell phones or electronic devices while they are in locker rooms, classrooms, or restrooms. During school hours student cell phones or electronic devices must remain in lockers, backpacks, or be locked in a personal vehicle. Students may use cell phones or other technology in classrooms only with the express permission of the classroom teacher.

Students are strictly prohibited from sending, sharing, viewing, or possessing pictures, text messages, emails or other material of a sexual nature in electronic or any other form on a computer, cell phone, or other electronic device while at school. Students who possess prohibited material on their cell phone or other electronic device while at school shall be subject to disciplinary consequences as articulated by the student handbook.

Students may not use cell phones or electronic communication devices while riding in school vehicles, including listening to music, unless they have permission to do so from the driver or other adult responsible for their supervision.

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Students who violate this policy or other school rules will have their cell phones or electronic devices confiscated immediately. The administration will return confiscated devices to the parent or guardian of the offending student, after discussing the rule violation with the student and parent or guardian. Students who violate this policy may, at the discretion of the

school's administration, be subject to additional discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

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Students may not use cellular phones in any classroom unless deemed appropriate by a student's education team. [INSERT YOUR STORAGE SYSTEM HERE; FOR EXAMPLE: The District will provide each student with a Yondr bag, and students must lock their cellular phone in the Yondr bag upon entering a classroom. The student may unlock the bag upon exiting the classroom at the end of the class period.]

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