

**SUBJECT: EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES****Le Roy Central School District  
Extracurricular Activities Policy**

**Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege that entails increased responsibility on the part of students who choose to participate.**

**Overview:**

The Le Roy Board of Education believes that involvement in extracurricular activities is an integral part of a student's total educational program as it forms a connection between the student and the school community and nurtures each student's special interests and abilities. The intent of this policy is to foster and promote good citizenship, sportsmanship and conduct, including a chemical free lifestyle by all students. While disciplinary measures are a part of our approach to encourage such a selection, it is only one part. In addition, we believe strongly in educating students in these areas and the promotion of treatment for substance abuse. Students and their parents will be expected to read and comply with this extracurricular activity code and sign a "Signature of Agreement Form" prior to participation in any and all extracurricular activities for each school year.

Extracurricular participation is defined as involvement in any non-credit bearing, school sponsored organization or activity, including class organizations, clubs, musical/theatrical and athletic teams. As representatives of our school and community, students are expected to exemplify positive role models. For this reason, additional protocols regarding the use of alcohol, tobacco, performance enhancing substances, illegal chemical substances, as well as, citizenship and sportsmanship are required by the Le Roy Central School District. Therefore, students are expected to use good judgment and avoid situations in which alcohol or other drugs are being used illegally. Further, students are expected to engage in behavior that demonstrates the ideals of good citizenship. *Since State Education law defines the school year as July 1 to June 30, these regulations are in effect during that time period.*

## Students

Decisions involving improper student conduct are made collaboratively between the Athletic Director and Principal for athletic team violations and the activity advisor and Building Principal for extracurricular activity violations. If a student disputes the findings of the investigating administrator's decision involving student conduct relating to drugs, alcohol, and tobacco they may exercise the appeals process outlined in this policy.

**Citizenship:**

Extracurricular participants are expected to follow the rules and regulations of the school district as stated in the District's Code of Conduct. A few examples of unacceptable behavior are: truancy, insubordination, hazing, vandalism, academic dishonesty, stealing and violation of the rights of others. Each member of an extracurricular activity as defined in the Overview is expected to do the following: attend all practice sessions or meetings, refrain from all profane and vulgar language, demonstrate good sportsmanship and cooperative attitudes, and treat all officials, coaches, advisors, and spectators with respect.

Participation in extracurricular activities is meant to be an enjoyable learning experience. Students must remember that they are at a contest and/or event to support and to enjoy the skill and competition, not to intimidate or ridicule the other team, its cheerleaders or fans. A display of good sportsmanship and citizenship will reflect positively on our students and our school. As school representatives, students are expected to be positive role models through their own actions.

Actions meant to demean officials and other participants do not support the highest ideals of interscholastic and extracurricular activities and will not be tolerated. Consequences for displaying poor citizenship and sportsmanship can result in a suspension from the extracurricular activity ranging from one day to one year based on the nature and level of severity of the offense as determined cooperatively by the Principal, Athletic Director and other appropriate directors/activity advisors.

**Behavior and Conduct of Participants:**

Good community citizenship is required of all participants of extracurricular activities and involves following a high standard of behavior and conduct while in or out of the school setting. Students are expected to follow all laws, school policies, and regulations. Any student who is arrested by police may be suspended from all extracurricular

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activities until the infraction can be investigated by the Principal, Athletic Director or other appropriate directors/activity advisors.

Extracurricular participants who violate the Le Roy Code of Conduct may be subject to additional disciplinary action by the Principal, Athletic Director or other appropriate directors/activity advisors. This will result in a variety of consequences ranging from a temporary removal to dismissal from the activity depending upon the severity of the offense.

Extracurricular participants who violate the law may be subject to disciplinary action by the Principal, Athletic Director or other appropriate directors/activity advisors after an investigation. This may result in consequences ranging from temporary removal to dismissal from the activity depending upon the severity of the offense.

Students engaging in criminal activity prior to the commencement of an extracurricular activity may be barred from participation for that activity provided that the Principal or Athletic Director determines that the student was, in fact, arrested which makes participation in all extracurricular activity inappropriate.

### **Responsibilities of Spectators:**

Students representing and attending events involving the Le Roy School District will recognize and show appreciation for both Le Roy and the opposing athletic teams or participants in an extracurricular activity. Admission to an event extends the privilege of observing a contest and is a contract for its holder to act in an appropriate and sportsmanlike manner. Students are expected to respect the integrity and judgment of contest officials and learn the rules of the game so that they may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.

### **Attendance:**

Students are required to attend all classes during the school day in order to participate in extracurricular activities after school. The exception is made for a bona fide appointment such as dentist, doctor, court, or college visitation or other absences deemed legal by New York State Education law other than illness and must be verified. Verification for medical appointments means that a note is issued by the physician's office. If a special circumstance exists regarding verification of medical appointments, please discuss with appropriate school personnel. Verification for court means that a note is issued by the judge or his/her designee. Verification for college visitations means that a note is issued by a representative from the college.

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Absences: If a student has an unexcused absence, is truant, suspended in or out of school, or excused from any part of the school day due to illness, s/he may not participate in any extracurricular activity that day. If a suspension spans a weekend, the student may not participate in any extracurricular events that weekend.

Tardy: Any student arriving to school after 8:00 a.m. is considered tardy. Unexcused tardies occurring between 8:00 a.m. and 9:10 a.m. will be allowed to accumulate to three tardies in a school year. Subsequent unexcused tardies within a school year (four or more) will result in the student's inability to participate in any event, practice, athletic contest, extracurricular activity, etc. on the day of the subsequent tardies. Students **may not** participate in any event, practice, athletic contest, extracurricular activity, etc. with an unexcused arrival to school after 9:10 a.m.

Absence Following Extracurricular Events: Each student must make every effort to attend school the day following an extracurricular activity. If a pattern of absences develops following an extracurricular activity, the Principal, Athletic Director or other appropriate director/activity advisor will take appropriate disciplinary action. If absences occurring after an extracurricular event are an ongoing problem as deemed by the Principal, Athletic Director or other appropriate director/activity advisor participation in the next scheduled extracurricular or athletic activity may be suspended.

**Extracurricular Rules Established by Coach/Advisor:**

In addition to the extracurricular rules set forth in this policy, the individual coach/advisor may establish rules for the activity above and beyond what is outlined in this policy. These rules must be approved, in advance, by the Principal, Athletic Director or other appropriate Director. Some areas regulated by the coach/advisor rules may be, but are not limited to, curfews, lateness to an activity, or insubordination to the coach/advisor. Violations to these rules may range from a warning, to suspension, to dismissal from the extracurricular activity. Disciplinary decisions that may result in a lengthy suspension (for an entire practice, game/performance or more) or dismissal from the extracurricular activity must be approved by Athletic Director, Principal or other appropriate Director.

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**Quitting the Team, Performing Ensemble or Club/Activity:**

It is highly desired that students refrain from quitting an activity, ensemble/group and or team once they have made the commitment to participate. If a student makes the decision to quit a performing ensemble or club/activity that runs for a full year, he/she will not be allowed to join a new performing ensemble or club/activity for a period of 10 weeks. If a student makes the decision to quit an athletic team, he/she will not be allowed to join another athletic team occurring during that season.

A student will not be allowed to participate in any other sport during the season if he/she is dismissed from a team.

**Release from Team, Performing Ensemble or Club/Activity:**

If a student requests release from a team, ensemble/group or activity the coach/advisor will make the decision regarding such release and the student's ability to participate in other extracurricular opportunities.

**Violation Reports and Penalties:**

Extracurricular Code of Conduct violation reports will be accepted only from coaches, administrators, teachers, school personnel or police officers who have personal knowledge of the violation. Violation Reports are submitted directly to the Principal, Athletic Director or other appropriate director/advisor. It is the responsibility of the Principal, Athletic Director or other appropriate director/advisor to inform the student's parent of the violation. Substantiated violations of this code will result in penalties ranging from suspension to dismissal from the extracurricular activity as listed in the general rules of conduct.

**Alleged violations from all other sources must be based on personal knowledge, and addressed directly to the Superintendent of Schools.** If reasonable suspicion exists, school authorities will conduct a thorough investigation.

Principal and/or Athletic Director will make a decision on the penalty. The District reserves the right to determine any appropriate penalty based on the circumstances of a violation. When determining the penalty, consideration will be given to the type of violation and previous involvement in other violations by that particular student.

The student and the parent will be notified by the Principal or Athletic Director within a reasonable amount of time of the determination of the suspension or dismissal, and if they desire, the appeal procedure.

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**Drugs & Alcohol:**

Offenses are defined as drug, tobacco, and/or alcohol use, possession, or attending a gathering where drugs and/or alcohol are being used illegally. Consequences at all levels of offenses pertaining to this section are in effect from one sports season or extracurricular activity to the next (e.g., student plays football and basketball but is not able to serve all the game suspension during football season, then the remaining games will be served during basketball season).

**OFFENSES ARE CONSECUTIVE AND PENALTIES ACCRUE FROM ONE YEAR TO THE NEXT BEGINNING IN 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE. OFFENSES AND PENALTIES ACCRUE FOR STUDENTS WHO VIOLATE THIS POLICY IN GRADES 7 AND 8 ONLY DURING THOSE TWO YEARS.**

Each of the provisions outlined for offenses as define below apply to concurrently occurring activities. For example, if a student participates on an athletic team and also is involved in an extracurricular club, the penalties apply to both.

**Self-Referrals for Assistance with Drug and/or Alcohol Abuse**

A student who self-refers him/herself for alcohol and/or drug abuse is not exempt from the penalties and procedures outlined in this policy.

If a student verifies that s/he has pursued an evaluation and recommended treatment with a New York State certified substance abuse counselor or agency, s/he lessens the period of suspension by no more than half of the period of the suspension. This referral **MUST** occur prior to the student receiving any type of consequence for infraction of the expectations set forth throughout this policy. The student and parents may consult with a member of the student support or counseling staff to obtain an appropriate referral for counseling services.

**First Offense**

A. (1) Athletes: Exclusion from participation in interscholastic sports for a period of two weeks and at least one interscholastic contest scheduled for that season. Student must continue to attend practice sessions. In addition, the student must meet with the school counselor for at least one session prior to reinstatement to the team. Additional sessions may be required and that decision will be at the discretion of the counselor.

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(2) Competitive/Performing Groups and clubs/activities: Exclusion from participation for a period of two weeks and at least one activity scheduled for that group. If practice sessions are typically required, the student must continue to participate in those. In addition, the student must meet with the school counselor for at least one session prior to reinstatement to the group, club, and/or activity. Additional sessions may be required and that decision will be at the discretion of the counselor.

~ OR ~

The penalty of two week suspension and removal from one interscholastic contest and/or activity and mandatory counseling may be reduced **for a first offense only** if the student agrees to participate in ten (10) hours of school directed community service. The student will be reinstated to the team, group or activity immediately upon verified completion of the community service requirement. Exercising this option still counts as a first offense and it only serves to reduce the consequences of the first offense.

**Second Offense**

- A. (1) Athletes: Exclusion from participation in interscholastic sports for the remainder of that athletic season and additional suspension from competition for  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the total contests scheduled for the next athletic season in which the athlete competes. In addition, the student must submit to an evaluation and/or counseling by the Genesee Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse or an alternative agency acceptable to the district until verification of dismissal from the program is received from the agency.
- B. (2) Competitive/Performing Groups and clubs/activities: Exclusion from participation for a period of ten (10) weeks. In addition, the student must submit to an evaluation and/or counseling by the Genesee Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse or an alternative agency acceptable to the district until verification of dismissal from the program is received from the agency.

~ OR ~

Exclusion from participation in interscholastic sports and extra curricular activities for ten (10) school months to run consecutively into the next school year, if necessary.

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**Third Offense and all subsequent offenses (applies to students in grades 9-12):**

**Exclusion from participation in interscholastic sports and extra curricular activities for the remainder of high school career (grades 9-12).**

If a student in grades 7 and 8 reaches the third offense or more threshold, he/she is ineligible for participation for the remainder of grades 7 or 8 (whenever the infraction reaches that threshold). That student would become eligible for participation again in grade 9 at which point any new offenses become cumulative and accrue from one year to the next for the remainder of his/her high school career.

**Signature of Agreement Form:**

The signatures of the student's parent/guardian and the student are required for participation in any extracurricular activity or athletic team. A completed Signature of Agreement form with the required signatures *MUST* be on file with the Principal, Athletic Director or other appropriate director/advisor before a student is allowed to participate in any activity. All participation forms will be kept on file on the Principal's, Athletic Director's or other appropriate director/advisor's office.

**Appeals Process:**

In the event that a student and his/her parent disagrees with the discipline imposed, the following hierarchy of appeal will be applied:

1. Parent must put request for reconsideration of discipline in writing to the Principal of the appropriate school. The Principal will meet with the student and parent to listen to concerns and make a decision regarding the appropriateness of the disciplinary measure.
2. If the student and/or parent disagrees with the determination of the Principal, a request for reconsideration of the discipline will be put in writing to the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent will meet with the student and/or parent to listen to concerns and make a decision regarding the appropriateness of the disciplinary measure.
3. If the student and/or parent disagrees with the determination of the Superintendent of Schools, a request for reconsideration of the discipline will be put in writing to the Board of Education. The student and/or parent has a right to be heard by the Board of Education to state their case. The Board of Education will make a decision regarding the appropriateness of the disciplinary measure.
4. If the student and/or parent disagrees with the determination of the Board of Education, an appeal may be made to the Commissioner of Education.