

# PARSONS JUNIOR HIGH

*“Preparing today for tomorrow’s success...  
No exceptions, No excuses!”*

## Student-Athlete Handbook

**2019-2020**



***Home of the Tigers***

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# **Philosophy of Student Athletics**

Parsons School recognizes the importance of athletics as an integral component of a student's complete educational development. As such, we believe that all students should have an opportunity to participate in some form of interscholastic athletics and that such participation should encourage positive scholastic and social growth and achievement. All participants and teams will represent the school and community in a positive manner and will reflect the dedication and hard work that will be required to compete and be successful. Success will not be measured by records that are achieved by teams or individuals, but rather by the knowledge that each participant gave his/her best effort and prepared for a contest to the best of his/her ability. Parsons School recognizes that an effective athletic program is the product of responsible cooperation among the student-athlete, the coaching staff, the parents, and the administration.

## **Program Guidelines**

### ***SPORTSMANSHIP***

Participation in the athletic program requires adherence to the highest standards of good sportsmanship. Aspects of good sportsmanship include ensuring fairness in competition and exhibiting respect for the people and institutions associated with athletic contests. Participation in school sports programs is a privilege, not a right. To earn that privilege, student-athletes must abide by the rules and they must conduct themselves, on and off the court/field, as positive role models who exemplify good character.

### ***GENERAL BEHAVIOR***

Unsportsmanlike conduct (e.g. profanity, throwing of equipment or any similar displays of immaturity) and disrespect to any person or institution will not be tolerated. Athletes accept responsibility for their actions both on and off the court/field. An athlete's language and behavior should not embarrass him/herself, the team, the school, the district, or the community. Defiant behavior and back-talk toward any coach, school official, or game official will also not be tolerated.

*Violations of the school's behavioral expectations may result in benching, the suspension or termination of the participation privilege and is within the sole discretion of the school administration.*

### ***SCHOOL/TEAM ATTENDANCE***

Attending all classes is a high priority for all student-athletes. Students must attend a minimum of four periods of the school day, excluding lunch, in order to participate in games that day (doctor's appointments excluded). An athlete must be present at all practices and games except for illness and family emergencies. Each athlete is personally responsible for notifying his or her coach prior to an absence whenever possible. An unexcused absence from practice or a game may result in a limitation or suspension of playing time. A pattern of unexcused absences from practices and/or games will ultimately result in the athlete's removal from the team.

## **TRYOUTS**

Many sports at Parsons require tryouts for determining who will represent the team. The following are guidelines of how tryouts shall be conducted:

1. Student Athletes must have a Sports Permission Slip completed in order to participate in tryouts.
2. All students must participate in at least one (1) day of tryouts to be considered and/or eligible for the team.
3. A minimum of two (2) days of tryouts will be conducted.
4. At the discretion of the coach/advisor, a third day of tryouts may take place to determine who will make the team.
5. If there are a large number of participants, a required first cut will take place after the second day of tryouts.
6. Alternate tryout days may be permitted to students with extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the administration (e.g. student was hospitalized during original dates).

## **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

The Enterprise Elementary School District and Parsons School staff's educational philosophy is built on the tenets that education must address the whole person as a physical, intellectual, emotional, and social being. The athletic program offers a valuable opportunity for students to develop their talents and abilities outside of the classroom. We expect our student-athletes to develop a broader understanding of teamwork, character, and sense of personal responsibility. Our athletes must act as exemplary role models for their peers and represent our school with pride and dignity.

Participating in extra-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right. Our athletes will demonstrate a high level of academic and behavioral performance. In order to maintain eligibility, each athlete must adhere to the following criteria:

1. Maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average (GPA) with no F's in their overall academic program. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director to provide team rosters to administration and teachers immediately following identification of team membership each season.
  - a. Official grade checks will be conducted every two weeks of a sport.
  - b. If a student-athlete is ineligible, he/she will be placed on a two-week probationary period which will begin two days after the initial grade check (e.g. If grade check occurs on Monday, then ineligibility begins Wednesday). Notification of this probationary status to the parents is the responsibility of the Athletic Administrator and the student-athlete. From the time of initial notification of ineligibility and extending through the probationary period, the student-athlete may practice but may not participate in competitions. If the grade(s) and/or GPA change to meet standards after one week of probation, and it is understood as such by the teacher(s) and Athletic Administrator, then the student-athlete will be reinstated as an eligible team player. However, if the standard is not achieved within the two week probationary period, then the student-athlete will no longer be eligible for athletic participation for the remainder of the sport season.
2. Meet standards of satisfactory citizenship in and out of the classroom throughout the school day. As previously stated under General Behavior, unsportsmanlike conduct

(e.g. profanity, throwing of equipment or any similar displays of immaturity) and disrespect to any person or institution may result in disciplinary action. Athletes accept responsibility for their actions both on and off the court/field. An athlete's language and behavior should not contradict the principles of Victory with Honor.

- a. **Violations of the school's behavioral expectations may result in benching, the suspension or termination of the participation privilege and is within the sole discretion of the school administration.**
  - b. Players receiving technical fouls or yellow/red cards will be immediately removed from the game, and may be benched for the remainder of the game. Any further disciplinary action for this offense will be at the discretion of the coach. Further fouls of this nature will be reviewed by the coach, Athletic Director, and Athletic Administrator and could result in dismissal from the team.
3. Athletes are expected to make a season long commitment to the team. Attendance at all practices and games is mandatory except for illness or family emergencies. A pattern of unexcused absences from practice and/or games will ultimately result in the athlete losing playing time and eventually being dismissed from the team. Further, students must attend practice the day before a game and attend four periods of the school day on a game day to be eligible to play.

### ***UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT CARE***

Each player and his/her parents are responsible for the storage and care of their uniform(s). Each uniform that the school is responsible to provide will be formally issued to each player. Players will be responsible for the replacement of the uniform if it is lost or damaged due to improper care.

1. All equipment will be inventoried, numbered, and checked out by the coaches under the direct supervision of the Athletic Director.
2. Students are responsible for the security of their equipment and uniforms. In some cases, particularly with game uniforms, the replacement fee may be higher than the original purchase price because special processing and printing may be required to duplicate the uniform.
3. Students are expected to turn in the same piece(s) of equipment checked out to them.
4. Equipment should be returned in the same condition as it was received. Equipment and uniforms should be cleaned and washed before being returned. Students are expected to make arrangements to have torn or ripped clothing repaired prior to turning it in.
5. All equipment must be returned within one week of the last game.
6. Students must return and pay for all equipment before they can practice or participate in another sport.
7. Students who leave a team prior to the end of the season must turn in their equipment and uniform within one week.

## **PARENT GUIDELINES**

The role of the parent in the education of a student is crucial. The support shown in the home is often manifested in the ability of the student to accept the opportunities presented at school and in life.

There is a value system – established in the home, nurtured in the school – that young people are developing. Their involvement in classroom and other activities contributes to that development. Respect, responsibility, compassion, and integrity are lifetime values taught through athletics. These are basic principles of good sportsmanship and character. With them, the spirit of competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations, and graceful acceptance of results.

As a parent/guardian at Parsons, you can help your student-athlete by:

1. Promoting a healthy lifestyle;
2. Realizing that athletics are part of the educational experience, and the benefits of involvement go beyond the final score of the game;
3. Encouraging all of our student-athletes to do their best, just as we would their classwork;
4. Participating in positive cheers that encourage student-athletes – discourage any cheers that do not reflect positive character and good sportsmanship, including those that taunt and intimidate opponents, their fans, and officials;
5. Learning, understanding, and respecting the rules of the game, and the officials who administer them;
6. Respecting the task that our coaches face as teachers, and support them as they strive to educate our youth. PLEASE do not approach a coach following a game if you need to discuss his/her decisions and/or strategies. Wait until the following school day at a more appropriate time to discuss your concerns;
7. Understanding that playing time is at the discretion of the coach. Though our coaches care about developing each individual athlete and their skills, he/she will almost always make a decision based upon what is best for the TEAM not individuals in game situations;
8. Respecting our opponents as student-athletes, and acknowledge them for striving to do their best; and,
9. Developing a sense of dignity and civility under all circumstances.
10. You can have a major influence on student's attitude about academics and athletics. The leadership role you take will help influence your child and our community well into the future.

**Violations of the above parent/guardian guidelines could result in one or more of the following: a warning, removal from a venue, suspension from events, or further discipline to be decided by administration.**

**Parsons Junior High School Athletic Program  
Permission to Participate and  
Athletic Handbook Acknowledgment**

Parent/Guardian:

As stated in California Education Code Section 35330, I understand that I hold the Enterprise Elementary School District, its officer, agents, and employees harmless from any and all liability for claims, which may arise out of or in connection with my child's participation in this activity. It also states that for your child to participate in this activity, the parent must provide written permission for this participation. My son or daughter, \_\_\_\_\_, has my permission to participate on the \_\_\_\_\_ team. The parent/guardian of the student-athlete **MUST** attend the mandatory Athletic Department Meeting, held at the beginning of each season, in order for the student to be able to participate in the sport for the given season. Parents/Guardians are only required to attend one Athletic Department Meeting per year. Parents may choose to attend the Coaches Meeting for the specific sport which will directly follow the Athletic Department Meeting at the beginning of each season (i.e. If a parent/guardian attends the Fall Athletic Department Meeting, the parent does not need to attend the Winter Athletic Department Meeting).

If the parent/guardian is unable to attend the Athletic Department Meeting, the parent/guardian must contact the Athletic Director or the Vice Principal to set up a time to review and sign the parent handbook. Please note that the meeting will be held at the accessibility of the administrator and the student-athlete cannot participate until the handbook has been reviewed and signed by the parent/guardian. I have read and understand the **eligibility requirements**, and **academic and character expectations** addressed in the Parsons Junior High Athletic Handbook.

**Parent/Guardian Name:**

**Parent/Guardian Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

(Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

(Cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

**Student-Athlete Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Insurance Carrier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Policy No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_ Check here if your child has a special medical condition or problem that the staff should be aware of. Kindly attach a description of that problem to this sheet. Please remember to list all allergies, asthma, use of inhaler, etc. If any medications are to be taken by the student, please list them by name and reason on the attached sheet. They will be administered by school staff only.