

Jenison High School Activities Conflict Guide

Forward

It is our belief that students can become well-rounded individuals through their participation in a variety of activities and events. It is understandable that students who participate in more than one activity or event may encounter conflicts. Administrators, teachers, coaches and activity sponsors will work together to help avoid conflicts when possible and resolve conflicts when and if they do occur. These guidelines are intended to address school related conflicts and are not intended to be applied to family or personal related conflicts. These guidelines have been formulated to:

- * Reduce the possibility of these types of conflicts through calendar planning and scheduling;
- * Increase communication between students, parents, teachers, coaches, and administrators so that conflicts can be avoided or resolved in amicable fashion;
- * Employ common sense resolution strategies if unavoidable conflicts occur.

Guidelines:

In order to reduce the potential for conflicts to occur, and resolve conflicts as they occur, the following expectations and guidelines have been established:

Calendar: A comprehensive activities/athletics calendar will be created in the spring for the following school year and distributed to all staff and students involved in student activities / athletics. Teachers, coaches and activities sponsors will avoid scheduling events to the extent possible during other activities and events.

Communication: Coaches, teachers and activity sponsors will review the dates involving students for their activity so that conflicts will be identified at the earliest possible date. Coaches, teachers and activity sponsors are responsible for reviewing their schedules and dates with their students. Students are responsible for making their coaches, sponsors or teachers aware that a conflict exists.

Notification & Resolution: When conflicts are identified, students will make the involved coaches, sponsors or teachers aware of each conflict at the earliest possible date, no later than two weeks (ten school days) prior the date in conflict. Coaches, sponsors and teachers will first attempt to assist the student in resolving the conflict without consequence to the student by employing one of the following solutions:

1. **Performance/Athletic Contest vs. Practice/Rehearsal/Optional Activity:** A performance or athletic contest always takes precedence over a practice, rehearsal or optional activity. The student will attend the

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performance / athletic contest. When possible, students will be allowed to leave the performance/athletic contest to attend the practice / rehearsal / optional activity once their responsibility to the performance / athletic contest has been completed.

2. Practice / Rehearsal / Optional Activity vs. Practice / Rehearsal / Optional Activity: Every attempt will be made the by staff member involved to devise a schedule where the student can participate in both events if realistically possible. Practice / Rehearsal / Optional Activities may also be restructured to permit dual participation.

3. Scheduled Activity vs. Rescheduled / New Activity: An activity that has been entered on the activities calendar in the spring takes precedence over activities that have been rescheduled or added at a later date except in the case where an activity has been rescheduled (due to a conflict) to a date where no conflicts exist and another activity causing a conflict is added to that date. In this case, the first rescheduled activity takes precedence.

4. Performance/Athletic Contest vs. Performance/Athletic Contest: In the event that a performance or athletic contest conflicts with another performance or athletic contest and the conflict was unavoidable due to calendar, league schedules, tournament scheduling or "draws" or other restrictions out of our control, the teachers, coaches and/or sponsors will work with parent involvement to amicably resolve the conflict. If an amicable resolution cannot be found, the conflict will be mediated and resolved by the high school principal or his/her designee.

5. District/Regional/State/National Activity vs. "Regular" Activity: A district, regional, state or national performance/athletic activity takes precedence over a regular school practice, rehearsal, performance or athletic contest. These types of conflicts are sometimes unavoidable due to tournament scheduling, draws and/or continued success (winning) by a team or activity. To insure the best chances for continued success by a team or activity, the district, regional, state or national performance/ athletic activity shall take precedence over other school related activities even though the other activity may have been scheduled first.

PLEASE NOTE: In the event that a student fails to make the involved coach, sponsor or teacher aware of a conflict at the earliest possible date, no later than two weeks (ten school days) prior to the date in conflict, the student will be subject to consequences as deemed appropriate by the involved coach, sponsor or teacher for the event that is missed.