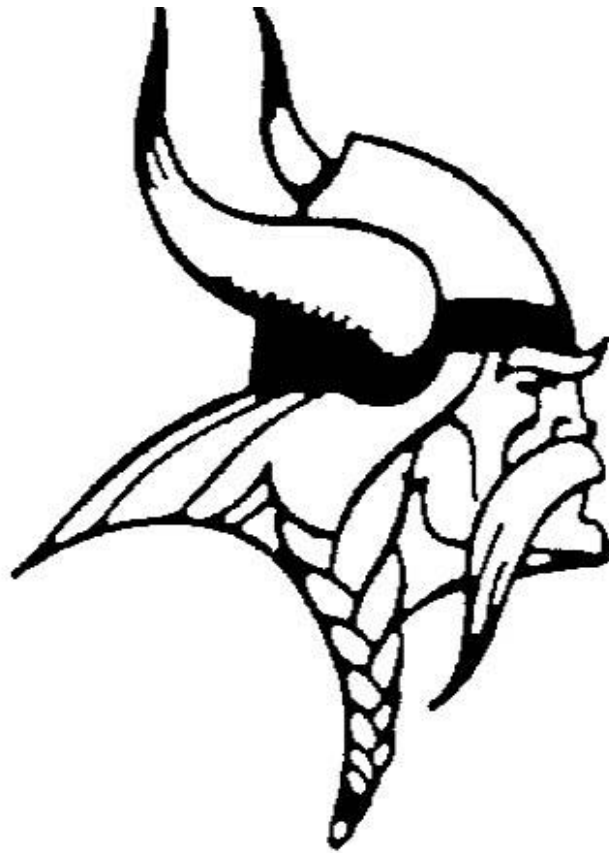


Student Activities Handbook



Langley High School
McLean, Virginia

LANGLEY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PARTICIPATION POLICY

Introduction

Student activities are part of the total school program and provide opportunities for students to augment classroom learning experiences. These activities are under the direct supervision of the school staff and contribute to the education objectives of the school. Students must meet all eligibility requirements as established by the Virginia High School League (VHSL), Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS), and team/activity. Student participation in these activities, however, is a *privilege*, determined and managed by the school. Students are expected to abide by all local, state, and federal laws in addition to Fairfax County, school, club, or organization rules and policies in order to participate.

The Langley High School Participation Policy governing the conduct of students involved in extracurricular and co-curricular activities was established in the spring of 1993 (updated August 16, 2004). The policy reflects the combined effort of coaches, sponsors, students, parents and administrators. The Student Participation Policy is not intended to weaken standards of teams, clubs, activities, and school organizations that have written rules or regulations more specific than those contained in the policy.

Standards of Conduct

General Statement

Students selected to participate in student activities must conform to all policies of the Virginia High School League Handbook, FCPS Student Rights and Responsibilities Regulations, and the Langley Participation Policy, which are not mutually exclusive. In addition, students are to exhibit good citizenship at all times.

Virginia High School League

Students must meet all eligibility requirements as established by the Virginia High School League. (The website is www.vhsl.org).

FCPS-Student Rights & Responsibilities Regulation (SR&R)

If a violation occurs on school grounds or at school sponsored activities, school officials will enforce the SR&R (Regulation 260.1P). The official and up-to-date version of this regulation is available through the FCPS web site (www.fcps.edu), which includes any changes that may be made between printings (See attached Quick Guide to Rules of Conduct and Disciplinary Consequences). If a violation occurs as defined by the SR&R, school administrators will follow the penalties described in that document. During a period of suspension, a student is not allowed on school grounds and is not allowed to participate in any sponsored school activities.

Langley Student Activities Participation Policy

Students are expected to maintain good attendance, abide by all school rules, and be good citizens. Students selected to participate in student activities may not consume alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs at any time. Participation in student activities requires that students comply with the provisions of Langley High School Participation Policy. This policy applies during non-school hours and/or at non-school events as well as at school and during all school sponsored activities.

Team/Club Rules

Each coach/sponsor will establish and submit team/club rules to the Director of Student Activities for approval. Team/club rules will be distributed and discussed with parents and participants prior to the beginning of the activity. Students are expected to comply with team/club rules and might forfeit their eligibility through noncompliance.

School Attendance

Students must attend all scheduled classes in order to participate in athletic contests, practice, or activity that day. Reasonable exceptions, such as a college visit or doctor appointments, may be approved by the Principal/Director of Student Activities prior to participation.

Detention

Students assigned detention for disciplinary reasons by teachers and/or administrators must report the detention to the coach or sponsor. The coach or sponsor may determine additional consequences.

Suspension From School/Classes

Students suspended or expelled from school for disciplinary reasons shall also be excluded from participating in athletics in accordance with FCPS regulations.

Hazing

Students may not engage in hazing or other mistreatment of another student. Schools officials may recommend suspension and expulsion in any hazing case, and students will lose privileges in student activities whenever they violate this rule.

Substance Abuse

If the school administration determines that a student who is participating in, or wishes to participate in, student activities is engaged in alcohol or other drug use, the student will be subject to consequences in accordance with the policy. Prior to making this determination and imposing any exclusionary consequence, school authorities shall give the student the right to explain his or her conduct. The student, with his or her parent's permission, may voluntarily submit to an appropriate drug test (if applicable) by an agency approved by FCPS to attempt to establish that he or she has not violated the policy. The results of any such testing shall be kept confidential but shall be communicated to the student and his or her parent or guardian and appropriate school authorities.

Court Disciplinary Action

Coaches/Sponsors may suspend a student from participation in student activities who has been charged with a misdemeanor or felony involving violence, assaults, vandalism, weapons, alcohol and/or substance abuse until disposition of charges. The student must report the incident to the coaches/sponsors. Coaches/sponsors will present the facts as known to the school administration who will determine eligibility for participation. School officials may deny participation in all student activities to any student convicted or found "not innocent" of a misdemeanor involving violence, weapons, alcohol and/or substance abuse or any felony charge. The student may appeal to the principal for reinstatement the following semester.

Student Participation Policy – Consequences

If a violation occurs off school grounds or at a non-school event, this policy will be followed. The Director of Student Activities and the coach/sponsor will determine the consequences based on the circumstance surrounding the violation.

Any first violation will result in a suspension from all team/activities for a minimum of 20 calendar days after adjudication is completed. The student may be allowed to participate with the group and to attend the contests/events, but not compete/perform. Additional consequences for the violation may be assigned and administered by individual coaches/sponsors. These may include (but are not limited to) counseling, work detail, or community service. Students will participate in an ADS (Alcohol Drug Service) assessment program.

Any second violation will result in a suspension from all teams/activities for a minimum of 30 calendar days. The student will not be allowed to attend any team or group event, except for next season tryouts. Additional consequences of the violation may be assigned and administered by individual coaches. These may include, (but are not limited to) counseling, work detail, or community service. Students will participate in an ADS (Alcohol Drug Service) assessment program.

As a maximum penalty, a student may lose the opportunity to represent Langley High School for the remainder of the season/year.

Student Participation Policy - Appeals

Students and/or their parents/guardians may appeal actions pursuant to this policy taken by the coach or sponsor. The appeal process is as follows: the first level of appeal is to the Director of Student Activities, and the second level of appeal is to the Principal. Decisions rendered under this policy cannot be appealed beyond the Principal. Each appeal must be made in writing within 24 hours of a decision. The Principal (or designee), who is the final level of student activities appeals, will rule in writing on the appeal in no more than three school days after the hearing.

Student Participation Policy – Acknowledgment Form

Students who participate in extracurricular activities must sign an Acknowledgment Form as a precondition of their participation in activities. The student's signature on the acknowledgment form signifies the commitment to abide by the conditions of the Langley High School Activities Participation Policy and to remain free of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs and to exhibit good citizenship at all times. The parent's signature on the pledge signifies that the parent has read, understands, and will support the pledge.

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Acknowledgement Form

2006 - 2007

Langley's administrators, coaches and sponsors remind students and parents that participation in student activities (extracurricular and co-curricular) is a privilege (not a right), and is dependent upon compliance with all applicable rules and regulations. The signatures below confirm that the student/athlete and his/her parent or legal guardian have read and understand the Langley High School Student Activities Handbook.

I recognize my responsibility to my team/activity, my school, and my community. I realize that my coaches or sponsors may establish additional rules and consequences for my team or activity. I know that failure to comply with these rules may result in disciplinary action such as reduced playing time, no playing time, suspension, or even dismissal from the team or activity.

Sport/Activity _____

Coach _____

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Please Print Name _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Please Print Name _____

Student: Please sign and return this page to your coach/sponsor

