L'ANSE AREA SCHOOLS

EXTRACURRICULAR & ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

Board of Education Approved: July 21, 2025

L'ANSE JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

201 N. Fourth Street
L'Anse, MI 49946
(906) 524-6000 fax (906) 524-0345

Extracurricular & Athletic Code

Academic Eligibility

The Board of Education promotes the academic success of all students regardless of extra-curricular involvement. We believe that participation in extracurricular activities can be a valuable component of a student's high school education. We also believe that academics come first and extracurricular activities are meant to enrich a student's education. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege that carries with it certain responsibilities. The intent of this policy is to promote a student's academic success while supporting the benefits of the extracurricular experience. Extracurricular activities include those activities that have no grade component to a class, including but not limited to, sports teams, academic teams, cheerleading and clubs.

Previous Semester Record

Per MHSAA regulation, students must have received credit in the prior semester for at least 25 credit hours of work (five classes) to be eligible for the first 60 school days of the following semester (fall semester to be eligible for the spring semester and spring to be eligible for the following fall, etc.). A student entering 9th grade for the first time may participate without reference to their 8th grade records.

Current Semester Record/Weekly Eligibility

Students in grades 9-12 must be passing at least thirty (30) credit hours (six classes) at the time of an eligibility check. If the student is not passing six classes, the student is ineligible for competition until the next check.

Students in grades 6-8 must be passing at least twenty-five (25) credit hours (five classes) at the time of an eligibility check. If the student is not passing five classes, the student is ineligible for competition until the next check.

Eligibility is checked on a week-to-week basis. The Jr/Sr High Office will initiate the check on Thursday of each week. The ineligibility period will begin Monday morning and end Sunday evening of the following week. Weekly eligibility checks begin with the fourth week of each marking period and continue through the eighth week of the marking period.

During the period of ineligibility a student may not take part in any formal competition. A student will be allowed to practice and take part in all team activities that do not require them to miss school, unless it is determined to be in the best interest of the student to attend tutoring. For students belonging to non-competitive organizations, they will be excluded from participation during ineligibility. Students who are ineligible will not be permitted to travel if they will miss any school. Ineligible students who are attending an athletic or extracurricular event after school hours are permitted to sit with the team/group but will not be allowed to be dressed in uniform

during that time. Ineligible students cannot ride the school bus or school vehicle to any away competitions or events regardless of the time the bus/vehicle departs. This paragraph applies to all types of ineligibility regardless of if it is due to academics, attendance, discipline or other reasons.

Seasons of Competition

Athletes are allowed to participate in one (1) interscholastic sport per athletic season unless an athlete completes a dual participation form. The maximum number of sports an athlete may participate in per school year is four (4). According to MHSAA regulation, an athlete may not have more than four (4) first and four (4) second semester seasons of competition. If a student who is enrolled in grades nine through twelve is ruled ineligible for any reason for one or more semesters, those semesters count as semesters of competition. Additionally, student athletes must not have been enrolled for more than eight semesters in grades nine through twelve inclusive.

Absences

Students are expected to be in class as part of the learning experience. It is the student's responsibility to ask in advance for assignments and make up all work if class is missed because of a sanctioned practice or extracurricular contest/function. Students are responsible for making up missed work on their own time, not during class time.

Away Events

During away events, students **MAY** be given a sanctioned absence the next morning if the group arrives home exceptionally late. This is at the discretion of the individual coach/advisor, but will not exceed the times below:

After 12:00 AM	-first hour
After 1:00 AM	-first and second hours
After 2:00 AM	-First, second and third hours, etc…

Absences will not be sanctioned if students are absent for more than the allowed class time. Students missing school after a game day without a sanctioned absence will be addressed as follows: Meeting with athletic director to clarify reason and may be required to sit out for part of the next competition. A repeated pattern, after verbal warning, of not attending school on the mornings following games, may result in the athlete being ineligible for the next competition.

Excused Absences

Students MUST be in attendance to practice, play or participate in athletic contests that day. If students are absent from school and it is determined that they practiced, played or participated that day, they will be suspended from the next competition. An exception would be made if the student has an approved medical appointment and provides documentation from the medical office indicating the location and time of the appointment. Students should attend as much of the school day as possible before or after the appointment allowing for adequate travel time. An exception will not be granted for an appointment due to current illness. If a student is sick for any portion of the day, they cannot participate in athletic contests that day. The Principal or Athletic Director must approve any exceptions to this rule.

Unexcused Absences
If a student is suspended from school during the athletic season, they will also be suspended from the next competition. If the student is in multiple sports or activities and 2 competitions/events are on the same day of or after a suspension, the student will not participate in either competition or even on that day.

Physical Exam
A physical form must be on file with the Athletic Director in order for a student to participate in athletics. The physician, parent, and a student must sign the form. Insurance obligations are the sole responsibility of the athlete and his/her parents.

Pay to Participate
During the 2025-26 school year, there will not be an athletic fee to participate. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to volunteer in the Booster Club concession stand as much as possible. If there are not volunteers, it will not be open. Students are also encouraged to participate in team fundraisers to assist with supplemental program costs. All team fundraisers must be approve in advance by school administration.

Parent Consent Form
No student shall participate unless the parent consent form has been signed and filed with the Athletic Director or Principal.

Transportation
Students must ride the school provided transportation to and from the event. A request by the parent may be made in writing or in person to the coach or Athletic Director (Principal or supervisor for all other extracurricular activities) should other transportation be necessary. If a parent or parent designated non-student adult is taking an athlete home from a game instead of the bus, that person must sign the athlete out with the coach. This helps assure all students are accounted for on the bus.

Athletic Code of Conduct Violations
Athletic Code of Conduct violations will apply to each student athlete on a year-round (12 month) basis in all locations, including non-school activities.

Illegal Substances

Students shall not possess, use, sell, distribute or otherwise provide alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or illicit drugs, including anabolic steroids and look-alike drugs. Violations may be reported by the following: All coaches, advisors, teachers and administrators of the L'Anse Area Schools and by law enforcement officers and parents of athletes involved, upon knowledge of a violation, must provide a statement as to the date and place of violation and given to the athletic director/principal. The student will be informed of the violation, penalty, policy and hearing procedures. The penalty for violating this regulation may include, but is not limited to the following:

1. First Offense: Suspension from participation in all scheduled activities for 25% of a sports season or combination of seasons.

2. Second Offense: Suspension from participation in all schedules activities for 50% of a sports season or combination of seasons.

3. Third Offense & Beyond: Suspension from participation in all scheduled activities for one calendar year.

These offenses start over in grades 9-12 but consequences must be served.

Criminal Activity

Students shall not be involved in any criminal activity including but not limited to theft, vandalism, assault, inappropriate texting, cyberbullying, arson, breaking and entering, or any felony. The school district may take action with regard to student conduct regardless of whether or not the court system imposes a penalty. First Offense: Up to and including suspension from all extracurricular activities for one year from the date the penalty is imposed. Second Offense: Up to and including permanent loss of eligibility.

Conduct

An athlete whose attitude or actions in school, out of school, or while participating in athletics (in the school's judgment) is detrimental to the philosophy of the athletic program may be assigned additional disciplinary action and/or ineligibility. This includes the revoking of some amount of playing time for athletes who display unsportsmanlike conduct during athletic competitions. The district's philosophy that coaches are expected to implement includes the assumption that teaching respect and discipline in the long run will take priority over achieving a win in the short term.

Parents/guardians are highly encouraged to attend athletic competitions to support their athletes. Parents/guardians are discouraged from attending the regular athletic practices. If a parent/guardian conduct at either games or practices contradicts the philosophy of the athletic program (in the schools judgement) will be asked to no longer attend.

Coach / Advisor Expectations

Coaches and other extracurricular advisors may establish rules governing student behavior that may be in addition to, but not instead of the rules outlined in the code, or any other code of conduct as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Practice Schedules

Practice schedules will be determined by the coach and athletic director. One weekend day off is mandatory. Sunday practices will be permitted only for Varsity teams and only if the team has a game scheduled on Monday. 'Open Gyms' and 'optional practices' will follow the same restrictions on Sundays. Practices on Sunday will be scheduled no earlier than 2:00 p.m. and not after 8:00 p.m. Any participant having a Sunday obligation will be excused with no repercussions or retaliation.

Dual Sport Participation (Two Sports in the Same Season)

There exist circumstances in which it may be in the best interest of both a particular team and individual athlete to allow participation on more than one athletic team during a particular season. This would allow individual athletes an opportunity to excel in activities that will help both them and others to grow and develop physically, socially, and emotionally while, at the same time helping the overall growth, development and success of the entire team.

A parent/guardian of a student who wishes to participate in two sports should request a meeting with the student, the coaches of both sports, and the Athletic Director to discuss these wishes and review the following:

- A written contract will be established wherein all the above named parties may agree upon training and performance requirements concerning the games and practices.
- The athlete must choose his/her primary sport and would be expected to attend all practices and contests of the primary sport.
- The athlete will only be able to participate in the secondary sport when there is not a conflict with primary sport activities. Potential conflicts will be resolved by the parties involved and included in the contract.
- The athlete would be expected to abide by all team rules for both sports, unless mutually agreed upon.
- If the athlete fails to comply with any of the agreed upon criteria, the athlete will no longer be eligible to participate in the secondary sport.

If an athlete is interested in participating in two sports during the same season, they must contact the Athletic Director to review the expectations and get the form that needs to be completed before the season begins.

L'ANSE AREA SCHOOLS

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY CODE,

PERMISSION FOR ATHLETIC COMPETITION & ACKNOWLEDGMENT

PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S CONSENT

While academics come first, participation in extracurricular activities can have a lasting positive influence on a student's education and life. Please be aware that participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege that carries with it certain responsibilities.

Occasionally, parents will be responsible for transporting their student athlete to or from local contests when school transportation is not provided.

We have read and fully understand L'Anse Area Schools athletic policies concerning the conditions, which will govern all students who participate in L'Anse athletics. We will do our best to see that our son/daughter abides by all of the rules and regulations as long as he/she desires to participate in athletics.

We also understand that the Board of Education carries no athletic insurance and does not assume responsibility for injuries sustained in practice or game/meets. If insurance coverage for injuries is desired, we recognize that such coverage is the responsibility of the parents.

Please sign and return this consent form to the principal's office. Athletes must also have a signed physical card on file prior to participating in any sport.

I have read the extracurricular participation code and fully understand my responsibilities.

Parent (*Print*) Name	Parent Signature	Date

PARENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and fully understand L'Anse Area Schools athletic policies concerning the conditions, which will govern all students who participate in L'Anse athletics. I do hereby accept the responsibility to uphold all rules and regulations so long as I desire to participate in athletics.

Parent (*Print*) Name	Parent Signature	Date

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and fully understand L'Anse Area Schools athletic policies concerning the conditions, which will govern all students who participate in L'Anse athletics. I do hereby accept the responsibility to uphold all rules and regulations so long as I desire to participate in athletics.

Student (*Print*) Name	Student Signature	Date

L'ANSE AREA SCHOOLS

201 N. 4th Street, L'Anse, MI 49946 – Ph.906.524.6000 Fax 906.524.6001

EMERGENCY TREATMENT PERMISSION FORM

I hereby authorize emergency treatment of my child, _____, by a license physician in the event s/he is injured or becomes ill while participating in contest, practices, and related traveling of L'Anse Area Schools. I understand that an attempt will be made to notify us by phone for verbal permission prior to treatment, however, if this is impossible, that this document signed and witnessed constitutes a request for the above treatment.

I certify that my child _____ was born on _____
(PRINT NAME)

Medication(s) allergic to: _____

Date of last tetanus booster: _____

Medication(s) currently being taken:

Name of medication: _____ Reason for taking it: _____

Name of medication: _____ Reason for taking it: _____

Personal Physician: _____ Phone: _____

Medical Insurance Co.: _____ Policy Number: _____

Emergency Parent/Guardian Information

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Witness Signature: _____ Date: _____

Witness PRINT Name: _____