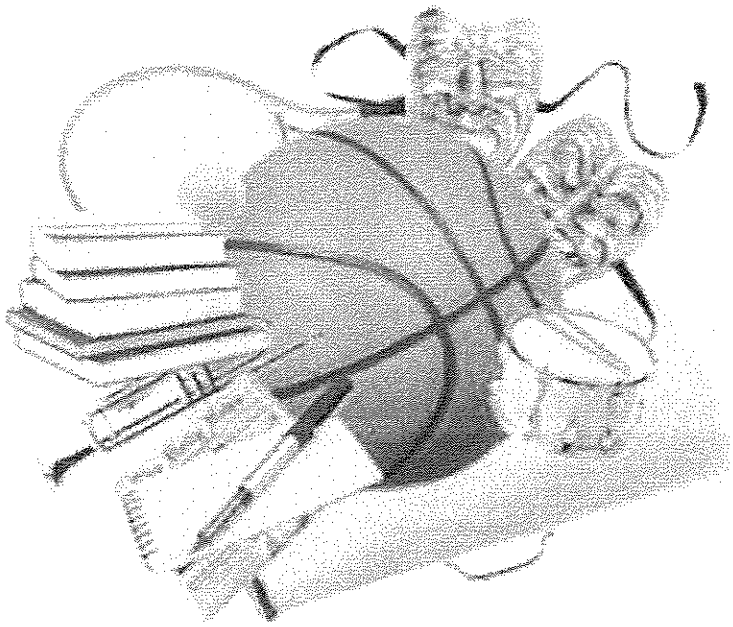
CIRCLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STUDENT HANDBOOK FOR ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

2026-2027



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Introduction

Circle Schools provides for co-curricular and extracurricular activities as an integral part of the total secondary school educational program. The opportunity to participate in a wide variety of activities is extended to all students who achieve the District's academic and social standards.

Research has shown that students who participate in activities tend to have higher grade point averages, better attendance records, and fewer discipline problems during the time they are participating. Research has also shown there is a high correlation between participation in extracurricular activities and success later in life.

It is important to remember that when taking part in activities you are representing yourself, your family, your school and the District. You must, therefore, act responsibly, display good sportsmanship, and abide by the rules and regulations set forth in this handbook.

Purpose

The purpose of this guide is to establish rules, procedures, policies, and philosophy as it pertains to the Circle School District Athletic and Activities Programs. The fundamental purpose of the athletic/activities program is to facilitate development of:

- Sportsmanship,
- A sense of responsibility to themselves and others,
- A devotion to an athletic and/or activities assignment,
- Pride of accomplishment of a job done to the best of one's ability,
- Sense of belonging to a group,
- Social values derived from contact with students and adults from other communities, and
- Healthy behaviors of participants.

The District will make equal educational opportunities available for all students without regard to race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, ethnicity, language barrier, religious belief, physical or mental handicap or disability, economic or social condition, or actual or potential marital or parental status. *(School Board Policy #3210)*

Activities Philosophy

It is our philosophy that participation in extracurricular activities is an integral and vital part of the total educational program.

The clubs, activities, and athletics provided by Circle Public Schools shall afford opportunities for students to involve themselves outside the classroom. Besides providing these programs, the District encourages student involvement because it benefits both the individual student and the school. The student learns cooperation, dedication, and a wholesome use of time, while also deriving a sense of personal pride and ownership, purpose, enhanced self-worth, loyalty, success and recognition, and physical and social development.

Student interest leads to pride in school, citizenship, leadership, democratic experience, and character development. Teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for others' rights and views are advanced.

Therefore, we believe it is the responsibility of the District to identify and maintain a mix of activities that motivates an optimum number of students without encroaching on one another. It is further incumbent upon the District to encourage participation by students for the above-mentioned reasons and their synergistic effect on the school community.

Finally, we believe that these activities are not an end in themselves but vehicles to work with students. We want to "win" not for "winning's sake," but because the desire to excel is a worthwhile lifetime goal. We do not subscribe to a "winning at all costs" philosophy. We value the importance of good sportsmanship, giving one's best effort, winning humbly, and losing with grace. We believe it is not the score that makes one a "winner" or a "loser."

Requirements

All students participating in extracurricular activities must have the following prior to the first practice:

- A required physical documented on the official Montana High School Association (MHSA) Physical Form (at least for all MHSA sanctioned activities).
- An Assumption of Risk statement signed by the parent.
- A Permission to Participate form (sign-off).
- An updated Medical information form.
- A Concussion Education and Compliance form signed by the student athlete and parent.

General Information Related to Policies

Policy Duration

This policy is in effect each school year from the date of first (1st) fall practice of fall activities (August) until the last day of all school activities. *(Refer to School Board Policy 3340).* The Administration shall publish the participation rules annually in the activities and student handbooks.

Academic Eligibility For Participation

Circle Schools will follow the eligibility rules as set forth by the Montana High School Association which reads as follows:

MHSA Requirement: A student must be enrolled and have received a passing grade in at least twenty (20) periods of prepared class work or its equivalent in the last previous semester in which the student was in attendance. Failure to meet this requirement will result in one (1) semester of ineligibility. Middle school students will be required to receive a passing grade in ten (10) periods of prepared work per week. *Refer to Board Policy 3121, 3150, and 3510 regarding homeschool participation.*
2) No student who is enrolled in a grade below the ninth shall be eligible to participate in a MHSA Association Contest, except as established in Section (5) of the MHSA handbook.

Eligibility:

Extracurricular Activities

A variety of activities are offered on an interscholastic basis and all students are encouraged to participate. Sports offered on a varsity level are football, basketball, volleyball, track, cross country, and wrestling. All discipline policies apply to students in extracurricular activities. Students may participate in these activities if they meet all eligibility rules of the Montana High School Association and Circle Public Schools *(complete Parent Risk Form).* A student may only participate in extracurricular activities if he/she is enrolled in Circle High School. To be considered eligible a student must enroll in the required courses and electives for each grade. Thus, students should be taking at least six (6) courses in the building unless otherwise specified by an IEP. For homeschooled students to be considered eligible, they must provide the necessary student information to the office prior to the start of practice.

Students participating must have satisfactorily passed a doctor's examination. Copies of the above-mentioned documents will be on file in the activities director's office before the student can participate, or partake in, any athletic contests. The school does not provide insurance. The student and his/her family is responsible for all medical costs. All activity and participation fees must be paid before the first contest event of the student's activity.

To participate in an MHSA-sanctioned activity, a participant must meet Montana High School Association riles and comply with all relevant District policies and regulations. All rules and regulations of the Montana High School Association (MHSA) may be found in the MHSA Handbook at www.mhsa.org.

Academic Rule: According to MHSA rules a student must be passing on a semester basis in at least four (4) subjects to qualify to represent the school. In addition, Circle Schools have established the following rules to participate in activities.

A two (2) week "F" eligibility list:

1. Student eligibility will run from Tuesday through Monday. All student work must be turned in by the close of school the previous week. Teachers will submit their list of ineligible students

Monday.

2. The first time a student appears on the list, he/she has until the close of school in a probation week to earn eligibility. Failure to do so will result in ineligibility from Tuesday through Monday for extracurricular events. In other words, if a student appears on the list two (2) weeks in a row in the same subject, he/she is ineligible. This means the student is ineligible to compete, perform, and travel with the team. The student will be allowed to practice in most cases. In some cases, the principal may suspend the right to practice.
3. Once a student goes off the list his/her two (2) weeks starts all over again.
4. If a student does not get his/her name off the list the second week, ineligibility will continue weekly until his/her name is off the ineligible list.
5. This eligibility list will be for all *ungraded* extracurricular and co-curricular activities, i.e. sports, cheerleading, plays, music (Blue Teens, Blue Bards, etc.), FFA, Speech and Drama, BPA, and Student Council.
6. No student shall participate in an activity unless he/she has been in school for the entire day of the activity unless excused for medical reasons supported by documentation from a medical facility, bereavement, or administrative discretion.
7. If a student fails a class for the quarter and/or semester, he/she will be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activities for two competitive weeks into the next quarter. This eligibility will carry over from quarter to quarter. Fourth quarter eligibility will carry over to the first quarter for the upcoming school year.

Age Rule – A student is not eligible for MHSA-sponsored events if the student turns 19 years of age before midnight, August 31, preceding that school year.

Enrollment/Attendance Rule – To be eligible to participate in an MHSA-sponsored event, a student must be regularly enrolled in school and must be in regular attendance from the enrollment.

School Absences

Absences from school and participation in practices, games, meets or performances. If you are absent from school for a school sponsored event you can practice, play in a game, or take part in a performance that day.

If you are absent from school for a limited number of periods for a medical, dental, optometrist, etc. appointment you can participate with approval from the administration (principal, vice principal, or the activities director). A written excuse from the doctor is required.

You may attend practice, play in games, or participate in performances with administrative approval if absent for a court appearance, bereavement, a family emergency, or some other reason deemed acceptable by the administration.

If you are home sick and do not come to school for all or part of the day or are absent from any class (excused or unexcused) you cannot practice, play, or participate in performances. It is not

in the best interest of our participants to be practicing when sick.

High School/Middle School-If you are more than 15 minutes late to any period you will be marked absent and will not be able to practice, play, or participate in performances.

If you are in school but are absent from class for reasons deemed unexcused, you may not participate in games, practices, or performances that day.

If a student attends morning practice and then chooses not to attend school that day, they will forfeit their practice the following day.

If buses do not run, students will have until 10:00 am to arrive at the school in order to participate in sporting events, practices, and performances. Administrative discretion may be used in extenuating circumstances.

Sex

To be eligible to participate in an MHSA-sponsored event and pursuant to Montana law, a student whose sex is male cannot participate in an athletic program or activity that is designated for females.

Transfer Rule

Transfer rules apply only to participation in varsity level activities. Student who are ineligible due to the MHSA transfer rule may compete in non-varsity level contests, against non-varsity level competition only. Any student who transfers from one high school to another high school is ineligible to participate for ninety (90) pupil instruction days unless one of the MHSA-approved exceptions applies.

Ejection Rule

If a student, coach or advisor is ejected from an MHSA competition for unsportsmanlike conduct, they will not be eligible to participate for the remainder of the event and will be suspended per MHSA's handbook policy guidelines. Coaches, in conjunction with Building Level Administration, may also institute or recommend further disciplinary action when considering the severity and frequency of the occurrences.

Homeless Students

No policy or administrative regulation of the District shall act as a barrier to the enrollment, attendance, or success in school of homeless children and youths to include eligibility for participation in interscholastic activities based on the Transfer/Residency Rule. For further information, please contact the District's Homeless Liaison, Tara Hubing 406-485-3600.

Participation of Nonpublic, Home School Student, and Part-Time Students

A student attending a nonpublic school or home school that meets the requirements under MCA § 20-5-109 may participate in extracurricular activities offered by Circle School District subject to the student's eligibility as set out in this Handbook. The student's academic eligibility must be verified by the administrator of the nonpublic school or educator providing the student instruction in the home school as verified by the building administrator. Students in a nonpublic or home school seeking to participate in an extracurricular activity shall be required to provide proof of identity and residency to participate. High school students wishing to participate will have an eligibility checklist form to fill out. Students are required to submit documented grades in the gradebook as well as weekly grades by 3pm Monday and at the end of each quarter and semester.

Additionally, nonpublic or home school students who live within the boundaries of the Circle School District and are of school age may enroll in a school part-time. A part-time student is entitled to participate in all school activities subject to the other eligibility requirements stated in the policy manual.

Parent and Family Engagement

Circle Schools collaborates with parents and guardians to promote the mutual goal of student achievement. To ensure parents are aware of their rights and the opportunity to engage with the School District, specific policies and procedures are available on the School District's website at http://www.circleschools.org/ and are available to be printed upon request. Please consult the following policies to learn more about methods to be an active part of your student's education:

- Student and Family Privacy Rights – Policy 2132
- Parent/Family Engagement and Involvement in Education – Policy 2158
- Student Health Instruction – Policy 2335
- School Activities and Clubs – Policy 3233 and Policy 3510
- Student Health – Policy 3410
- Student Immunization – Policy 3413
- Student Records and Confidentiality – Policy 3600
- Title IX: Sexual Harassment, Sex Discrimination, or Sexual Intimidation – Policy 3210 for Title IX Coordinator – Tara Hubing, 406.485.3600 thubing@circleschools.k12.mt.us. Reporting Form – Policy 3225-NF(1)
- Bullying/Harassment/Intimidation/Hazing – Policy 3226

Parent Meeting

Parents/guardians and students participating in an activity **are required** to attend an informational meeting to discuss and sign the activities policy. Parents are required to attend

only one of these meetings per year, even if they have more than one child participating in more than one activity. This meeting will be held before the first practice session. If parents are unable to attend the regularly scheduled meeting, it is the parent/guardian responsibility to make arrangements with the Activities Director to sign the proper paperwork before the first scheduled practice.

Parent/Coach Communication

The coach will not meet with a parent until a 24-hour waiting period is observed. A 36 to 48-hour wait is recommended.
The chain of command is for the student to first visit with his/her coach about their concerns. If the student does not feel the issue is resolved, a meeting may be set up with the AD/administration and the coaches.

Parents and coaches/activity sponsors both advocate for their students, and clear communication is necessary to ensure that all parties are aware of the expectations for the program.

Communication to Expect from your Student's Coach/Activity Sponsor:

1. Expectations the coach/activity sponsor has for your student and the team.
2. Location and times of all practices and contests.
3. Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, team/individual camps.
4. Medical procedures, should your student become injured during participation;
5. Team rules, guidelines, and requirements for earning awards.

Communication Coaches/Activity Sponsors Expect from Students:

1. Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.
2. Special concerns in regards to a coach/activity sponsor's philosophy or expectations.
3. Injury or circumstances that may endanger the student when participating.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches/Activity Sponsors

1. The treatment of your student – mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your student improve.
3. Concerns about your student's behavior.

Issues NOT Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches

1. Playing time.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Other students' playing time or behaviors. Complaints about another student's behavior toward your child should be addressed with the coach/activity sponsor or administrator.

It is very difficult to accept your student not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches/activity sponsors make judgment decisions based on what they believe to the best for all of the students

involved. Playing time and strategy are discretionary decisions of the coach/activity sponsor and not subject to review.

Communication with Coaches and Athletes

Player or Team/coach communication: Circle Schools will use Remind, a communication platform, for communicating with teams and players to remain professional as in Policy 5223. Coaches and Assistant Coaches should not use texting or any form of social media with players (i.e. Facebook Messenger or Snapchat). The school will help create Remind accounts for coaches to use.

Complaint Procedure

If you have a concern, please discuss the issue with your student first. If you still have concerns that you want to discuss with the coach/activity sponsor, the following is the process for informal complaints:

1. Meet with the coach/advisor to discuss your concern.
2. If the coach/advisor does not address your concern, schedule a meeting with the building level administrator or Activities Director (i.e. athletics).
3. If your complaint is not addressed, you may file a formal complaint through the Uniform Grievance Procedure under Board Policy 1700 (if applicable) or other applicable Grievance Procedure (Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure, Section 504/ADA Grievance Procedure).

Student and Parent/Legal Guardian Due Process

If a determination is made that a student has violated this policy, the student and parent/guardian shall be notified of the violation by telephone when possible and by mail. Also at this time, the student and parent/guardian shall be notified of the type of discipline that will be administered.

Any parent/guardian and student who are aggrieved by the imposition of discipline, shall have the right to an informal conference with the principal to resolve the grievance. At the conference, the student and parent shall be subject to questioning by the principal and shall be entitled to question staff involved in the matter being grieved.

If the discipline involves a high school student and the recommended discipline is exclusion from participation in extra- and/or co-curricular activities for a period in excess of ten (10) days, the parent and student will be notified of the date and time the Board will consider the recommendation. Only the Board can exclude a student from participation in extra- and/or co-curricular activities. Legal Reference: § 20-5-201, MCA Duties and sanctions

Suspension or Exclusion from Team – (Who makes the call)

Suspension means the exclusion of a student from attending individual classes or school **and**

participating in school activities for an initial period not to exceed ten (10) school days. *(School Board Policy #3300)* This will be treated as an unexcused absence from the activity.

Recommendation of dismissal of any student from an extracurricular activity needs to be brought to the attention of the Activities Director in a timely fashion. (Policy 3300 and 3300P) The AD and administration will work together to resolve the issue.

Accident Report Form and Procedure

Injuries: All injuries are to be reported immediately to the coach and parent/guardian regardless of the nature of the injury. The coach will fill out an accident report form and submit it to the Superintendent. Once reviewed the form will be filed in the Athletic Directors office within one (1) school day of the accident.

Assumption of Risk Statement

Liability:

The Board recognizes that certain risks are associated with participation in interscholastic activities. While the District will strive to prevent injuries and accidents to students, each parent or guardian will be required to sign an "Assumption of Risk" statement indicating that the parents assume all risks for injuries resulting from such participation.
(School Board Policy #2151)

Code Of Ethics

Once you become a member of a team or activity at the District, you have made a choice to uphold certain standards expected of activity participants in the school community:

1. The use of vulgar or profane language is unacceptable.
2. The coach of each activity shall set the standard for game or activity day dress.
3. Students are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times.
4. Students are expected to be supportive of all team/activity members, coaches, and officials before, during and after an event.
5. Students are expected to follow all rules and regulations of the school as well as any specific rules and regulations adopted by the advisors or coaches.
6. Show cordial courtesy to visitors and officials.
7. Respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials.
8. Achieve a thorough understanding of the activity and its rules.
9. Encourage leadership and good judgment.
10. Recognize that the purpose of activities is to promote the physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being of all involved.
11. Keep an open line of communication between participant and coach/sponsor.
12. Hazing, harassment, bullying, intimidation on the part of students, staff, or a third party (fan or student attending event) will not be tolerated. Activities are an extension of the classroom and a violation will be treated as such and dealt with as stated in the student and staff handbooks.

13. Realize that your failure as a student participant to abide by the code of ethics may result in your removal from the event, activity, and/or disciplinary action

Sportsmanship

The District prides itself on its students, coaches/activity sponsors and parents exhibiting good sportsmanship at all District events. A display of unsportsmanlike behavior may result in sanctions against the team, player or parent. In order to maintain our outstanding reputation for sportsmanship, all team members, coaches and parents are asked to observe the following guidelines for sportsmanship:

1. Be supportive of all athletes, team members, coaches and officials.
2. Accept the decision of officials without dispute.
3. Recognize and show appreciation for the fine play of your opponent.
4. Cheer for your team, not against the opponent.
5. Do not allow negative sportsmanship by your opponent to become an excuse to do the same.

Sportsmanship (MHSA Handbook p. 26-27)

Section (33) SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES

A. Statement of philosophy: The Montana High School Association has established policies, expectations and responsibilities which will cultivate the ideals of good sportsmanship. It shall be the responsibility of each member school to ensure that all individuals employed or directly associated with the interscholastic program conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner. The coach represents the school at interscholastic athletic activities. It is the responsibility of the head and assistant coaches to serve as role models for students and the public.

B. Code of Conduct: A coach will be in violation of the standards for good sportsmanship established by the Montana High School Association by:

1. Making degrading/critical remarks about officials during or after a contest either at the competition site, from the bench, in the locker area or through any public news media; 2. Arguing with officials or going through motions indicating dislike/disdain for a decision; 3. Detaining the officials following a contest to request or argue a ruling or explanation of actions by the official;
4. Being ejected from a contest;
5. Physically assaulting an official.

Conduct

Rules of Conduct

Students who engage in misconduct off of school property or outside of the school day may be subject to discipline by school authorities under certain circumstances. One of those circumstances is when students choose to participate in extra or co-curricular activities. In addition to the Student Code of Conduct in the Student Handbook, all students who voluntarily participate in District sponsored activity agree to abide by this Activities Code of Conduct throughout the year in which the student participates in the activity. The District student

athletes/activity participants are considered to be role models and expected to act accordingly during their high school career.

Behavior and Citizenship

Students participating in extracurricular activities, whether sponsored by the MHSA or not, shall not use, have in possession, sell, purchase, or distribute alcohol, tobacco innovations, or illegal drugs or abuse prescription or non-prescription drugs during their extracurricular seasons. These rules are in effect twenty-four (24) hours a day.

Cell Phones

NO CELL PHONES or any electronic media devices in locker rooms or restrooms. Do not have your cell phone "on" or visible in the locker room or the restroom. Cell phone usage in these areas will necessitate immediate confiscation. Return of the cell phone will be granted to the parent or legal guardian.

Use of Cell Phone & Electronic Devices on Sponsored School Trips

Each coach or sponsor has their own set of guidelines pertaining to the use of cell phones on school trips. Each student must adhere to their advisors' rules and regulations.

Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco are strictly prohibited. The possession, use, consumption, distribution, purchase, sale or manufacture of, or any other improper or unlawful involvement of any kind or description with illegal drugs, controlled substances, alcohol or alcoholic beverages, anabolic or androgenic steroids, tobacco, tobacco products, E-cigarettes, Vapor Pens or facsimiles, marijuana products, "look-alike" drugs, drug paraphernalia, or substances or products that mask or tamper with any of these, is strictly prohibited. Also, prohibited is the distribution, abuse or misuse of over the counter medications or prescription drugs, or other chemicals or substances. These prohibitions apply to all settings, whether in school or out of school.-(*Refer to Tobacco Free Policy 8225 and Policy 3340)*

Disciplinary Procedures: Investigation and Appeal

Any determination that a violation of these regulations has occurred will be made only after a meeting is held with the student and he or she is presented with the information indicating that a violation has occurred. The student must be afforded the opportunity to provide information in response. If a determination is made following that meeting that a violation has occurred, the student will be notified of that determination and of the consequences of that determination. Any determination that results in consequences being administered as per these regulations will be provided to the affected student in writing. If a student disagrees with a determination made by the building administration under these regulations, the student may seek review of that decision by the building level Activities Director and may secure further review of the determination by

the District Superintendent. Absent a recommendation to exclude a student from participation in an activity, review by the Board of Trustees is limited to complaints outlined in the Uniform Complaint Policy. Any consequence that results in the student being excluded from an activity will be administered by the Board of Trustees. Students are ineligible for participation in any student activity while suspended (in or out of school) or expelled from school. This ineligibility status shall begin on the day of the recommended administrative action and shall continue through the end of the last day of the discipline imposed.

First Violation. The student will be:

- Temporarily suspended from competing or performing in extra/co-curricular activities for a period of twenty (20) calendar days. If a student self-reports a violation to a building administrator, the temporary suspension period will be reduced to ten (10) calendar days.
- Suspended from team practices for up to five (5) days following notification.
- Students may lose letters and/or awards

The student may continue to attend and participate in activity practices during the temporary period of suspension after the practice suspension of up to 5 days ends. The student shall also be required to attend home games/events as a spectator only. They will not travel on District provided transportation to games/events outside of Circle during the term of the suspension and if in attendance, they will not be with the team.

Second Violation. The student will be:

- Temporarily suspended from competing or performing in extra/co-curricular activities for a period of thirty (30) calendar days. If a student self-reports a violation to the Activity Leader or designee, the temporary suspension period will be reduced to twenty (20) calendar days.
- Suspended from team practices for up to five (5) days following notification.
- Students may lose letters and/or awards.

The student may continue to attend and participate in activity practices during the temporary period of suspension after the practice suspension of up to 5 days ends. The student shall also be required to attend home games/events as a spectator only. They will not travel on District provided transportation to games/events outside of Circle during the term of the suspension and if in attendance, they will not be with the team.

Third Violation: The student will be recommended to the Board of Trustees for a determination that he/she is ineligible for participation in activities for the remainder of the student's high school career.

Any penalties imposed under this Activities Code of Conduct may be carried from season to season if the student has not completed the requirements for the violation during the season. For example, if a student is found to have engaged in a first violation of the Alcohol, Drugs and

Tobacco Rules when only two weeks of an activity season remain, the penalties shall carry over into the next activity season in which the student participates.

A head coach or sponsor may implement disciplinary measures against a student for violation of the Activities Code of Conduct or Student Code of Conduct. The building administrator or Activities Director, in consultation with the coach/sponsor, may implement disciplinary measures against a student for any other violation of the Activities Code of Conduct or Student Code of Conduct that may include, but is not limited, denial of right of participation in a competition that does not exceed 20 days. Any recommendation to exclude a student from participation in an activity shall be made to the Board of Trustees at a duly-called meeting.

1. The Board will strive to provide a positive and productive learning and working environment. Bullying, harassment, intimidation, or hazing, by students, staff, or third parties, is strictly prohibited and shall not be tolerated. *(School Board Policy 3226)*

   Hazing, bullying, harassment and/or initiation are strictly prohibited. Hazing means a behavior or pattern of behavior directed at one or more specific individuals which persecutes, harasses, humiliates, degrades, or endangers the physical safety of an individual. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, any coerced or involuntary activity by team members toward other existing or potential team members that subjects the team members to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects their mental or physical health, safety or welfare. An initiation is a ceremony, ritual, test or activity with which a group admits a new member. Bullying and harassment are prohibited as set out in Board Policy 3225. Conduct that constitutes sexual harassment will be addressed through the District's Title IX Grievance Procedures and Board Policy 3225.

   "Bullying" means any harassment, intimidation, hazing, or threatening, insulting, or demeaning gesture or physical contact, including any intentional written, verbal, or electronic communication ("cyberbullying") or threat directed against a student that is persistent, severe, or repeated, and that substantially interferes with a student's educational benefits, opportunities, or performance, that takes place on or immediately adjacent to school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity, on school-provided transportation, at any official school bus stop, or anywhere conduct may reasonably be considered to be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a student or staff member or an interference with school purposes or an educational function, and that has the effect of:

   a. Physically harming a student or damaging a student's property;
   b. Knowingly placing a student in reasonable fear of physical harm to the student or damage to the student's property;
   c. Creating a hostile educational environment, or;
   d. Substantially and materially disrupts the orderly operation of a school.

2. Students who engage in any other behavior that is illegal or that substantially disrupts or materially interferes with the school environment, whether it occurs during the school day, at a school activity, or occurs off school grounds, will be subject to discipline. This includes activity

on social media that involves illegal conduct, bullying, harassment, making threats, or substantially disrupts or materially interferes with the school environment.

Building Standards

All students are also responsible for complying with the rules in the Student Handbook. Depending on the situation, an athlete/activity participant may face consequences under both the Activity Code and the Student Code of Conduct. If a student is disciplined for a violation of the Student Handbook, the coach/advisor will be notified. A conference between the building administrator, coach/advisor and the student will be conducted to determine if there are any code of conduct violations and consequences, if any.

Violations of Code of Conduct

Allegations of violations of the Activities Code of Conduct or Student Code of Conduct will be investigated by the building level administrator. The student will be informed of the allegations and provided the opportunity to respond to the allegations. If a determination is made by the building administrator, using the preponderance of the evidence standard, that a violation of the Activities Code of Conduct or Student Code of Conduct occurred, the student will be notified of that determination and of the proposed consequence for the violation.

Reporting

All complaints about behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. Any student, employee, or third party who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy or feels he/she has been a victim of hazing, harassment, intimidation, or bullying in violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report his/her concerns to the building principal or the District Administrator, who has overall responsibility for such investigations. A student may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor, who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate District official. Complaints against the building principal shall be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent or District Administrator shall be filed with the Board.

Exhaustion of Administrative Remedies

A person alleging violation of any form of harassment, intimidation, hazing, or threatening, insulting, or demeaning gesture or physical contact, including any intentional written, verbal, or electronic communication, as stated above, may seek redress under any available law, either civil or criminal, after exhausting all administrative remedies.

Sex-Based Discrimination And Title IX

No student, on the basis of sex or, in accordance with binding guidance of the Federal Office of Civil Rights regarding the scope of Title IX's sex discrimination prohibition, gender identity, sexual orientation, or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity will be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise

of any rights, privilege, or advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

Inquiries regarding discrimination on the basis of sex should be directed to the District Title IX Coordinator Tara Hubing, located in the Circle School District Administration Office.

Sexual Harassment Policy

For a complete description of the Circle Public Schools Sexual Harassment Policy, refer to Policy Descriptor code: *(Refer to School Board Policy 3225)* and/or contact Tara Hubing Title IX Coordinator.

Corporal Punishment (Discipline and Punishment of Pupils M.C.A. 20-4-302)

No District employee or person engaged by the District may inflict or cause to be inflicted corporal punishment on a student. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force District personnel are permitted to use as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons or for the purpose of self-defense.

Cut Policy

If your program involves selections or "try-outs" for the team, you must provide the Activities Director with a copy of your criteria before your season begins. There will be no "selections" until you have 3 days of practice. This can be one of the most difficult decisions a coach has to make but good communication between coach/sponsor, athlete, parents, and Activities Director can prevent a lot of problems. Individual coaches/sponsors will develop their criteria for selection of those participants who will be placed on a team and those who will not be placed on a team. These criteria will be made known to participants at the beginning of their season. These criteria may be more stringent than the baseline requirements contained in this handbook. The Activities Director prior to implementation will approve all team selection criteria.

Team Placement Policy

While a head coach/sponsor will establish specific written criteria for the selection of a student trying out for a team/activity, the criteria will likely include some or all of the following components. Individual coaches/sponsors may place more weight on certain components over other components. The District recognizes the need for coaches to make discretionary judgments regarding players. The District will uphold selection decisions unless there is evidence of substantial deviation from the stated guidelines and procedures. In general, the following criteria will be considered in addition to any additional criteria identified by the head coach/sponsor:

- Sport specific skill and/or overall athletic ability
- Attendance at practice/tryout sessions
- Cooperative attitude/work ethic towards coaches and other players
- Previous history of involvement in the sport

- "Coachability" as reflected by following team guidelines, accepting criticism and attempting to meet or surpass the coach's expectations
- Positive communication with coaches and players
- Potential for development
- Desire as demonstrated through maximum effort in all team activities
- Academic standing

Participant Selection Policy:

In some activities, only a limited number of participants will be possible. Selections or auditions will occur and some participants will not be included on teams or selected for positions or roles. Coaches are charged with the following responsibilities relating to these decisions:

1. The coach is responsible for making decisions about who is selected, keeping those participants who give the group the best chance of success.
2. The coach has the responsibility to meet with each participant who is not selected and explain the reasons for the decision.
3. The coach has the responsibility to meet with parents who would like to discuss a selection decision.

Activities Director - athleticdirector@circleschools.k12.mt.us

Dress and Grooming (Dress for Activities)

Dress for appropriate representation of your school, family and community!! Coaches and students represent Circle Public Schools and the community. Coaches are hereby encouraged and authorized to establish exemplary standards and practices in fashion, grooming and taste that will tend to enhance the appearance of the group as a whole. Such standards and/or practices must be of a reasonable nature, appropriate to the group's activity and **reflect positively** on the image of the group and school. Further, these standards and/or practices must be made known to all potential members at the beginning of the activity season for that group (or sooner if possible).

Equipment

Students are responsible for the safe return of all equipment checked out to them. Game uniforms, practice gear, equipment, travel bags and other school issued items are to be checked back in with the coach, sponsor or advisor at the completion of activity/season. Students may not loan or "swap" equipment with another student without the approval of the coach, sponsor or advisor. There will be an assessed damage fee (at the discretion of the Activities Director) for any school equipment unable to be used by future participants, to be paid prior to the start of the next sport season.

Athletes may need to provide a deposit for any equipment or uniforms used for school approved games/camps in the summer. The deposit will be refunded when items are returned. If any items are returned damaged, there may be a fee.

Fundraising

1. All fundraising efforts to support a team, club, or activity must be approved by the building administrator or designee. An approval form must be submitted. Before giving approval, the administrator or designee will review the purposes of the fundraising effort, how much money will be spent, compliance with the law and District policy, and the guidelines and directions that will be given to the students regardless of their participation. The administrator or designee may request to meet with the individual(s) submitting the application to gather additional information.

2. If the fundraising project includes the use of student time, it must take place at such times and place as to not unreasonably interfere with the operation of the school or interfere in the student's learning.

3. No rewards or prizes may be offered to groups, classes, or students unless specifically approved by the building administrator. For students participating in activities sanctioned by MHSA, compliance with MHSA rules on eligibility and awards for participants is required.

4. Student participation is voluntary. A student's ability to participate on an athletic team or in a club is not contingent on the student participating in fundraising activities. A student will not be penalized for not participating.

5. Sales quotas for students may not be a part of any fundraising effort and students may not be required to pay for any unsold items which are returned to the organization.

6. The parents/guardians of students under the age of 18 must give permission for their students to participate in a fundraising effort before any products or materials are sent home with the student.

7. Fundraising projects must be appropriate for the public-school environment and age of the students involved.

Dual Activity in a Season

Refer to Policy in 2025-2026 MHSA Handbook at www.mhsa.org.

Qualifying Activity Preference

At any time a student is participating in multiple school-sponsored activities and more than one activity falls on the same day, the participant will attend and participate in the activity that is a state level competition or qualifying activity (districts/divisional/regional's) for future participation.

Activities Offered

Elementary Activities

4-6-Girls & Boys Basketball (Jamboree)
5-6-Football

5-6-Track
5-6 Volleyball
5-6 Cross Country
5-6-Wrestling

*5th Grade Participation being conditional to discussion between the parents, coaches, and administration. Administration will have final say in this decision.

Middle/Jr High School Activities

6-8 Girls & Boys Basketball, Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, Track, Wrestling, Music Festival, Cheerleading, and Pep Band

High School Activities

Girls Volleyball *
Boys Football
Girls & Boys Basketball *
Girls & Boys Wrestling *
Girls & Boys Cross-Country *
Girls & Boys Golf
Girls & Boys Track *
Pep Band Blues Pep Band Music Festival
Speech & Drama*
All Class Play
BPA FFA HOSA Rural Educator's Club
National Honor Society
Student Council
Cheerleading
* See 8th Grade Sports Participation

8th Grade Sports Participation

8th grade participation will be conditional on a discussion between the parents, students, coaches, and administration. Administration will have the final say in this decision. During postseason tournament play, eighth-grade students who are not dressing in uniform and actively participating with the high school team are required to remain with and complete their junior high athletic season. Students may not discontinue participation with their junior high team in anticipation of joining a high school team unless approved by the Activities Director and Head Coach. 8th graders are subject to the transfer rule.

Support of Athletic Teams

All expenditures by a school support organization in support of athletic teams must be done in conformance with gender equity requirements of Title IX and the *Ridgeway Settlement Agreement*. MHSA permits the following expenditures, with approval of the District:

- The purchase of merchandise (travel shirts, jackets, shooting shirts, etc.) for an athletic team where the District maintains ownership of the merchandise. Merchandise may be checked-out to students during the athletic season but must be returned to the District at the end of the season. A student who does not return merchandise purchased with money donated by a school support organization at the end of the athletic season will be billed for that item. MHSA does not permit a school support organization to purchase merchandise for students to keep.
- The purchase of meals for students while traveling during regular season and/or the post-season. In no event, however, shall any cash be distributed directly to students for the purchase of such meals or for any other reason.

Insurance and Injury

The School District requires that the parent, guardian, caretaker relative of students participating in school sponsored activities (extracurricular, etc.) provide verification of their child's health insurance coverage status. The school district does not provide health insurance to pay for injuries of students while participating in school sponsored activities (extracurricular, etc.). If the parent, guardian, caretaker relative elects not to provide private health insurance coverage for their child, they are accepting responsibility for any medical expenses incurred by their child in the event they are injured while participating in the school sponsored activities (extracurricular, etc.) that is not the result of fraud, willful injury to a person or property or the willful or negligent violation of a law by a trustee, employee, or agent of the School District.

Also, the School District does not provide student accident insurance coverage for students. Student accident insurance coverage may be purchased by parents through a private company for a fee. Student accident insurance information is distributed at the beginning of the school year and available throughout the year. Please review the information carefully, consider the benefits of such coverage, and complete the application as per instructions. This is an opportunity to provide student accident insurance coverage while your child is at school or participating in activities. A parent seeking coverage must make sure the student accident insurance coverage is in place prior to the first day of practice and/or school. Please contact the coach or Activities Director for additional information.

Lettering Criteria

Each coach will establish their own criteria for lettering with approval by the Activities Director and Superintendent. The lettering criteria will be shared with participants at the first coaches meeting of each activity season.

Meal Procedure Student Meals:

Team meals will be provided for post season competition. All meals will be purchased according to School District Purchasing policy(ies). Rates per meal will be in accordance with the School Districts per diem policies.

The district will not provide meals for regular season games, meets or tournaments. The District

will allow parents or others to provide packed meals for the team(s) while traveling. This would be known as a 'cooler clause". All meals will be provided in accordance with District policy and Title IX requirements.

Recommended Meal Allowances

When the District provides meals, the following meal allowances will be adhered to:
Breakfast $14
Lunch $18
Dinner $25
TOTAL $57-(exclusive of 15% gratuities)
Current State Rate Meal allowances cannot be added together (example: continental breakfast or sponsored meal is provided). These are guidelines and coaches and administration will work together to plan for reasonable meal plans.
Gratuities: When appropriate (sit down meals), the coach/sponsor will include, but not exceed **(ex. 15%)** of the total meal bill.
NOTE: **Specialty drinks and desserts are the student's responsibility.**

Medication Policy (issuing meds to athletes)

Administering Medicines to Students *(Refer to School Board Policies 2151 and 3416)*
Coaches and or trainers may not issue medicine of any type to students. This provision does not preclude the coach and/or trainer from using approved first aid items.

Participation Fee (Districts Collection & Tracking)

A participation fee will be assessed to ALL students participating in middle school and high school activities. Contact school secretaries for activity fee schedules.

NOTE Any student unable to pay the participation fee due to financial constraints is encouraged to contact the activities director or building principal to make arrangements for an alternative method of payment of fees (ex. installment payments, work/participation). It is important to understand that during the Academic School Year, Circle Public Schools will make every effort to see that no student is eliminated from participation in activities due to financial constraints.

Physical Exams (MHSA Form)

MHSA Handbook: ARTICLE II Section (3) Physical Exam
A physical examination is required for each student in order to be considered eligible and to be approved for participation in an Association Contest. Physical examinations must be completed prior to the first day of practice. This examination must be certified by a licensed medical professional acting within the scope and limitations of his/her practice. All students in grades 4–8 are required to complete a new athletic physical annually in order to participate in school-sponsored sports and activities. Students entering 9th grade are required to complete an initial athletic physical prior to participation in high school athletics. After the initial 9th grade physical, high school students' physicals are valid for two (2) years, provided there are no

changes in medical status that require an updated clearance. Parents will be required to fill out the Interim Medical History form for the years in between required full physical examinations. A physical examination conducted before May 1st is not valid for participation the following school year. The physical examination form developed by the MHSA Medical Advisory Committee and approved by the MHSA Executive Board must be used. A current form may be obtained from the school office or from the medical office giving the physical. The cost of the physical exam is the responsibility of the student athlete and his/her parents.

Participation in athletic activities involves risk of serious personal injury. Athletic activities are hazardous and could include such injuries as paralysis, head injuries or possible death. Taking part in such activities is calculated risk-taking on the part of the student athlete and the parent. The District does not assume financial responsibility for medical, hospital or ambulance expenses incurred because of athletic injuries. Every student trying out for an athletic team must have a completed medical history/physical form on file with the athletic trainer or turned in to the coach the first day of practice. No student may participate in any practice/tryout/warm up/competition without a completed medical history/physical form on file.

Concussion Education and Compliance

Concussion Form: All participants and their parent/guardian must initial all the required information on the concussion form and have it completed before the student may begin practice. *Refer to Board Policy 3415 and 3415P*

Concussions

A concussion is an injury to the brain arising from blunt trauma, an acceleration force, or a deceleration force, which may involve certain observed or self-reported conditions attributable to the injury, including but not limited to transient confusion, disorientation, impaired consciousness, dysfunction of memory, loss of consciousness or signs of other neurological or neuropsychological dysfunction, including: increased irritability, lethargy, vomiting, headaches, dizziness, fatigue, decreased balance, and seizures.

Prior to practicing or participating in any organized athletic activities during each school year, the student and the student's parent or guardian must review and sign the Student-Athlete & Parent/Legal Guardian Concussion Statement.

The District shall ensure that all coaches, athletic trainers, officials, including volunteers, will have access to and will complete training regarding concussions and head injuries at least once each school year.

An athletic trainer, coach, or official shall remove a youth athlete from participation in any organized youth athletic activities at the time the youth athlete exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion. Once removed, the youth athlete may not return to the organized youth athletic activity until the youth athlete no longer exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion and has received an evaluation and written clearance from a licensed health care professional that the youth athlete has been evaluated and is capable of safely resuming participation.

School Sponsored Trips

Students are encouraged to positively represent their school and community. General rules of conduct for students on school-sponsored are to use good judgment in regard to their conduct at all times while on a school trip, and to represent themselves so trips are as follows:

1. All students must at least dress according to the school dress code. School sponsors may require a specific dress code.
2. There is to be no use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs.
3. All students will ride the bus to the event except in cases of prior administrative approval. Students should present a written request to the coach or advisor before leaving on the trip. Parents must speak directly to the coach before taking their student after the activity. Students may return with parents with permission. Parents may sign the "Parental Release Form" the coach has with them at events.
4. All students are expected to cooperate fully at all times with the designated supervisor which includes the bus driver.
5. A student's attendance on field trips, class trips, or any other school-sponsored activity may be determined by a committee consisting of teachers and administration. The committee may choose to look at office referrals, behavior of the student and whether the student is compliant to school staff.

Travel Rules, Regulations and Procedure

Because of the legal implications regarding school district responsibilities and liability for any student involved as a participant in a school sponsored extracurricular activity, participating students will be required to ride school-sponsored transportation to and from any activity taking place away from Circle. This will apply to any student who is a member of a team, music group, cheerleading squad, pep bus or any other school-sponsored activity involving students as assigned participants. It does not include student spectators, except those riding on a pep bus.

The only exception will be a written request by a parent for their son/daughter to ride with THEM to/from the activity. The parents must SEE the coach/sponsor and sign a release at the time of the request. If for some reason, the parent may want the student to LEAVE an activity with someone other than themselves, a written request must be made in writing PRIOR to the scheduled activity and must be pre-approved (at least a day in advance) by the Activities Director and the coach.

Any person providing transportation for student activity members, with a specific request from the parent as previously outlined, must meet one of the following qualifications:
1) An immediate family member; parent or legal guardian, sister/brother, grandparent, and/or adult 21 years or older. This person(s) must SEE the coach and sign the student out prior to leaving the activity.
Any participant who arrives late for a coach's announced leave time will NOT be allowed to participate in the activity for that day.

Transporting students with Personal Vehicles

Private vehicles are not to be used for transportation of District student participants to and from District sanctioned activities unless approved by administrator. No student is to be permitted to perform district business with his/her own vehicle, a staff member's vehicle, or a district-owned vehicle.

Overnight Travel

1. A chaperone for either/both genders of participants traveling will accompany groups when the activity requires an overnight stay when practical.
2. At no time should students of the opposite gender be allowed in a room without the direct supervision of the coach.
3. If both genders are traveling together, the groups will be separated by the aisle or one group will be seated at the front and the other at the back with the coach sitting between the groups.
4. Rotate the seating arrangement to allow each group equal opportunity to sit at the front and back of the bus.
5. Managers of opposite sex will sit near the coaches.
6.Students are required to stay in the hotel room assignments designated by the coaching staff or school administration during all school-sponsored travel. Room assignments are made in advance to ensure student safety, appropriate supervision, and team organization. Students are not permitted to change rooms or switch housing assignments~~, or stay in a different room~~ without prior approval from the head coach or designated school chaperone. Any parental requests seeking a change to district housing policy/assignments must be submitted in writing five (5) school days prior to the school-sponsored travel date to the coach/advisor and district administration. Requests must include rationale for the requested change and any approved change adding expense to the district's travel budget will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Video Surveillance

The Board authorizes the use of video cameras on District property to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of all staff, students, and visitors to District property and to safeguard District buildings, grounds, and equipment. The Superintendent will approve appropriate locations for video cameras.

The Superintendent will notify staff and students, through staff and student handbooks or by other means, which video surveillance may occur on District property. A notice will also be posted at the main entrance of all District buildings, and on all buses, indicating the use of video surveillance.

The District may choose to make video recordings a part of a student's educational record or of a staff member's personnel record. The District will comply with all applicable state and federal laws related to record maintenance and retention.

Student-Athlete (Male & Female) of the Year Award

Before Awards Night, all head coaches are encouraged to vote for one male and one female athlete of the year for high school. Those eligible for the award must meet the following criteria:
- Be a Junior or Senior in high school.
- Have participated in two or more sports including but not limited to: football, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, cross-country, track
- Shown good sportsmanship throughout the entire year to all students, staff, competitors from other schools and the community.
- Shown leadership qualities such as volunteering to help with District and/or community activities and working with students in younger grades.
- Recipients of this award consistently represent the values of the school through their behavior on and off the field, their commitment to their teammates and coaches, and their positive contribution to the overall school environment. Consideration is given to student-athletes who are actively engaged members of the school community throughout the year and who uphold the expectations and standards of the program they represent.
- Maintained passing grades and have not been on the ineligible list (Academic probation list is okay) the entire current year.
- In the event a sport or season is canceled during the current school year, the head coaches and administration have the authority to include those student-athletes who were going out for that sport and would qualify for the award to be included in the nomination list
- The male and female student-athlete with the majority of head coach votes for their respective award will be the winner. Should there be a tie between two or more student-athletes, the high school staff will be given the names of those tied and an anonymous vote will be held among the staff to decide the winner. Should there remain a tie after the high school staff votes, then the Superintendent will vote to decide the winner(s).

College Recruiting

Coaches are encouraged to promote their athletes for scholarships whenever possible, however this should be done after consultation with parents. Documentation of all contacts with representatives of secondary institutions should be forwarded to the Activities Director.

District/Building General Office Hours

Main Office hours are: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. Friday, 7:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. When parents/guardians call the school, messages will be taken for a return call during non-instructional time. If it is an emergency, a student will be pulled from class. We do not relay messages from non-parents calling for non-family business, nor do we acknowledge that the student attends this school for privacy and safety reasons.

Contact Numbers

Circle High School-406-485-3600, High School Fax-406-485-2332 Redwater-406-485-2140
Tara Hubing - Supt & Counselor– 406-485-3600
Megan Knuth– K-12 Principal – 406-485-3600

Please fill out and sign the following forms and return to the school
Medical Information Form (Updated Annually)

MEDICAL TREATMENT/RELEASE FORM
To: Parents and/or Guardians of Students Representing

Circle School in Activity Programs.
It has become exceedingly difficult to obtain medical services for students injured when competing, without first obtaining parental/guardian consent in writing. So that proper emergency assistance may be provided, we ask that you review the following statement, sign and return to the office at the appropriate campus for your student. The form will then be filed with the Activities Director(s).

I hereby authorize Circle Public Schools and its faculty members/employees/athletic representatives in charge of my child named below to obtain all necessary medical care for my child and I hereby authorize any licensed physician and/or medical personnel to render necessary medical treatment to my child.

Print Student's Name: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone number: _____

Emergency Contact (Within 15 miles of Circle, MT) -

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone number: _____

Relationship to Student: _____

Allergies? _____ YES: _____ NO
If "Yes" please list:
_____

Medication Needed: _____ YES _____ NO
If "Yes" please list:
_____

Special Medical Problems? _____ YES _____ NO
If "Yes" please list:
_____

We have private health care coverage for our student? _____ YES _____ NO

STUDENT PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE

The District offers student clubs and extracurricular activities, events, and programs to the Student, including, but not limited to, curricular and co-curricular programs and clubs, sporting events, athletics, band, cheerleading as identified in the Student Activities Handbook, and transportation and lodging to, from, and associated with these activities (collectively "Clubs and Activities").

Parental permission is required for the Student to participate in a Club or Activity. By signing this form, you give permission for your child to participate in the Club(s) and Activity(ies) identified by you and:

1. Represent the Student is fully capable of participating in the Club/Activity or Clubs/Activities and agree to disclose all known limitations to the District, including, but not limited to; medical conditions, physical limitations, and any other limitation known to the Student or the Parents.
2. Understand and acknowledge that the Student may not be skilled in one or all of the Clubs and Activities;
3. Understand and acknowledge that the Student is subject to all eligibility requirements adopted by the District for participation as well as any governing agency, including but not limited to the Montana High School Association;
4. Understand and acknowledge that engaging in any Activity may require a degree of skill and knowledge which the Student may not possess;
5. Understand and acknowledge that the Club or Activity in which the Student seeks to participate may require an audition or try-out to determine if the Student has the required skills/abilities to participate and that the Student may be "cut" from the Club or Activity through the audition/try-out process;
6. Understand and acknowledge that the District has informed us that certain risks are inherent in some Clubs and Activities and cannot be eliminated without destroying the unique character of the Club and/or Activity. These risks may include, but are not limited to; the inherent dangers related to sports, athletic events, hazards of traveling in and to areas without medical services or care, dangers due to the forces of nature (including, but not limited to, avalanches, lightning, fire, inclement weather, exposure, flooding), dehydration, falls, injury caused by malfunction or failure of any equipment, injury or sickness resulting from food, allergies, transportation accidents, and others;
7. Understand and acknowledge that the foregoing description of risks is incomplete, and these risks and other unlisted, unknown, or unanticipated risks may result in injury or death;
8. Understand and acknowledge that engaging in any Activity may require a participant to listen to any instructions, warnings, or risk assessments of the District, to ask for instruction or clarification whenever needed, and to follow instructions; and
9. Understand and acknowledge that the District may remove the Student from Activities for any breach of safety policies, or any conduct that the District deems unsafe.

The Student and Parents hereby consent to the Student participating in the Club(s) and Activit(ies) identified in spite of, and with full knowledge of, risks which may be associated with that Activity.
By signing this Agreement, the Student and Parents acknowledge they have carefully read and understand its contents.

See attached for list of clubs and activities.

STUDENT NAME	STUDENT SIGNATURE	DATE
NAMEOF PARENT OR GUARDIAN	PARENT OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE	DATE

Signed permission must be turned in before a student can participate in a Club or Activity.

I hereby give my consent for _____(student) to participate for Circle Public Schools in the following Activities: Please place a X beside the activities the student will be in for the entire school year, even if at this time you are still considering an activity

Elementary Activities **Middle/JR High Activities** **High School Activities**

Elementary Activities		Jr. High Activities		High School Activities	
	4th/5th/6th Jamboree Basketball		Volleyball		Volleyball
	5th/6th Grade Track		Football		Football
	5th/6th Cross Country		Cross Country		Cross Country
	5th/6th Grade Football		Basketball		Basketball
	5th/6th Volleyball		Wrestling		Wrestling
	5th/6th Wrestling		Track		Track
	5th/6th Music Festival		Music Festival		Speech and Drama
			Cheerleading		Blues Choir
			Pep Band		Pep Band
			Leadership Group		All Class Play
					Business Prof of America (BPA)
					National Honor Society
					Music Festival
					Student Council
					Cheerleading
					FFA
					Health Occup (HOSA)
					Future Rural Educators Club
					Golf

School Sponsored Transportation and First Aid Release Form

I also give (student) permission to ride school-sponsored transportation to/from any activity taking place away from Circle Schools. I hereby also give the school permission to seek first aid treatment and medical services if necessary for the student listed above, should an emergency arise and with the understanding that there will be no financial obligation on the part of the school.

Print student name: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Student allergies to medication:

_____

_____

Student Date of Birth: _____

Home Phone/Cell Phone: _____

Emergency Phone: _____

STUDENT HANDBOOK
FOR
ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS
SIGN-OFF
2026-2027 School Year

My signature on this document verifies my receipt and responsibility to read and follow the following documents:

I have received a copy of the **Circle Public Schools Student Handbook for Activities/Athletics** for the 2026-2027 school year. I understand that the activities handbook contains information that my child and I may need during the school year for participation in activities. I understand that all students will be held accountable for their behavior and will be subject to the disciplinary consequences outlined in the handbook.

(PRINT) Name of Student(s)

_____

_____

_____ _____
Parent Signature Date

_____ _____
Student Signature Date

_____ _____
Student Signature Date

_____ _____
Student Signature Date

RETURN THIS SIGN-OFF SHEET TO THE OFFICE PRIOR TO THE FIRST PRACTICE