

**TO PARTICIPANTS
IN HIGH SCHOOL
FINE ARTS PROGRAMS AND THEIR
PARENTS/GUARDIANS:**

This brochure is a summary of the basic regulations that students and parents or guardians should understand. Complete regulations are found in the MSHSL Official Handbook which is posted on the MSHSL Website: www.mshsl.org.

Please keep this brochure for reference, and if there is a question about any rule interpretation, CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OR ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

**MINNESOTA STATE
HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE**

**2009-2010
FINE ARTS ELIGIBILITY
INFORMATION**

Please make sure the form below is signed by both parent/guardian and student, and return along with the participation fee* to the Activities Office.

***PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THIS FORM FOR THE FEE SCHEDULE REGARDING THE ACTIVITY FOR WHICH YOU ARE REGISTERING.**

**If you qualify for free lunch, your participation fee will be waived and if you qualify for reduced lunch your fee will be 1/2 the amount.*

IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THIS FUNDING, YOU MUST PRESENT YOUR APPROVAL LETTER YOU RECEIVE FROM THE FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES DEPARTMENT WHEN YOU RETURN THESE FORMS.

2009-10 MSHSL Fine Arts Eligibility Information

Statement to be signed by the participant from the MSHSL member school and by the participant's parent or guardian.

I have read, understand, and acknowledge receiving the 2009-10 Fine Arts Eligibility Information Brochure which contains a summary of the eligibility rules of the Minnesota State High School League. I understand that a copy of the Official Handbook of the MSHSL is on the League Web site (www.mshsl.org) for my review. I further understand that a member school of the MSHSL must adhere to all of the rules and regulations that pertain to the League Music and Speech activities a school may sponsor, but that local rules may be more stringent than MSHSL rules. I agree to fully cooperate in any investigation honestly and truthfully.

*The student/parent authorizes the release of documents and other pertinent information by the school in order to determine student eligibility. **Student/parent signatures on this form will authorize participation in all fine art activities for the 2009-2010 school year; fees to participate in fine arts activities will be payable to the Activities Department throughout the school year. ***
In addition, the student/parent understands and agrees that public information shall include names and pictures of students participating in or attending extra-curricular activities, school events, and High School League activities or events.

Student's Signature

Birthdate

Grade

Date

Parent's or Guardian's Signature

Date

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION:

1. Have you attended schools other than School District 206 since 9th grade? YES NO
2. If yes, which school(s) and which grade(s)? _____

DISTRICT 206 POLICIES

CODE OF CONDUCT - School District 206 has adopted a district-wide Code of Conduct. All persons involved with school activities of any kind will be expected to dedicate themselves to the following Code standards while at school and school-related events.



- Respect - Be considerate of self, others, their beliefs and property.
- Honesty - Be truthful.
- Kindness - Be caring, friendly, and helpful.
- Responsibility - Be dependable and accountable.
- Fairness - Be committed to the just treatment of others.

ISSUE RESOLUTION PROCESS

- Student to Coach
- Student and Parent to Coach
- Student/Parent/Coach to Athletic Director
- Student/Parent/Coach/Athletic Director to Principal
- Student/Parent/Coach/Athletic Director /Principal to Superintendent
- Student/Parent/Coach/AD/Principal/Superintendent to School Board

We ask that there be a **24 hour** cooling off period before contacting the coach/advisor.
 Playing time/team selection/strategy can be discussed at the coach and Athletic Director level, but not beyond.

INTERNET INFORMATION – For up to the minute weather related announcements and/or schedule changes go to www.clcmn.us once at this site go to CLC School Calendars and select Alexandria High School to view the calendar of events and complete schedules for all levels. This site has a wealth of information including all the latest maps, directions, standings, etc. The Cardinal Connection containing daily results can be found at www.alexandria.k12.mn.us Once at the district 206 website, go to High School Activities from the menu on the left of the page and select Cardinal Connection. This page gives results and highlights from the contests the day before. If you want to see previous Cardinal Connections, they are also available here. Another site that might be of interest to you is: The Minnesota State High School League at www.mshsl.org

MESSAGE LINE - A 24-hour message line is available at 763-1850 with the listing of the week's activities and the latest in weather related announcements. Because weather changes quickly, decisions to postpone or cancel contests are not made until approximately 1 pm the day of the contest. As soon as a decision is made, the information is put on the message line. Please call the message line before calling the school to inquire about the status of an event.

INCLEMENT WEATHER - When school is dismissed or canceled due to inclement weather, all Middle School activities will also be canceled including practice and games or events such as concerts, plays, etc. In the event of a senior high activity not being canceled due to inclement weather any middle school student who is a part of the senior high activity will be allowed to participate with that activity. The parent always has the right to decide that their student will not participate because of the weather. These students are not to be punished in any way for this decision. There is not a set policy for senior high co-curricular activities on days of inclement weather. We will continue with a policy of making a decision by 1 pm the day of inclement weather and having it on the local radio stations, message line and web site at that time.

ELIGIBILITY - Eligibility requirements set forth by the MSHSL are specific concerning academic progress and athletic or activity eligibility. Jefferson High School uses the following policy to determine eligibility:

SEMESTER ONE(Beginning of school year)

- 10th grade -Must have earned 5.5 credits to participate
- 11th grade- Must have earned 11.0 credits to participate
- 12th grade- Must have earned 16.5 credits to participate

SEMESTER TWO (January 18, 2010)

- 10th grade- Must have earned 8.0 credits to participate
- 11th grade- Must have earned 13.5 credits to participate
- 12th grade- Must have earned 19.0 credits to participate

DMS STUDENTS NEED TO BE IN SCHOOL BY THE BEGINNING OF 3RD HR. JHS STUDENTS MUST BE IN CLASS 4TH, 5TH, 6TH AND 7TH PERIODS (UNLESS ABSENT DUE TO A SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITY OR MEDICAL/DENTAL APPOINTMENT) IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PRACTICE OR PARTICIPATE IN ANY ACTIVITY AFTER SCHOOL.

ELIGIBILITY FOR LEADERSHIP POSITIONS - Students holding leadership positions (including captain of team, homecoming/midwinter/prom royalty, etc.) FOR ANY OF THE ACTIVITIES UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF THE Activities Department of District 206 (all sports, A-Club, Alexian Yearbook, Drama, FFA, Intramurals, Jeffersonian School Newspaper, Knowledge Bowl, Math Team, Music, National Honor Society, Speech, and Student Council) who are found in violation of MSHSL and/or District 206 rules which result in a loss of participation opportunities will be removed from their position of leadership and will be ineligible to hold another such position for the period of one calendar year. If extenuating circumstances warrant, the student may appeal this restriction by initiating a discussion with the coach/advisor involved, the Asst. Principal and the Activities Director.

TRANSPORTATION - All students are expected to ride to and from contests on District 206 transportation. If special situations arise, students may ride only with their own parents if written permission is given in advance.

Participation Fees for Fine Arts Activities

\$80.00 Fee
Marching Band

\$60.00 Fee
One-Act Play
Jazz Band
Knowledge Bowl
Speech
Rainbow Strings

\$45.00 Fee
Fall Play
Spring Musical
Math Team
Carolers
9th Grade Play
Destination Imagination

Please make checks payable to: School District 206



2009-2010 FINE ARTS ELIGIBILITY BROCHURE

Students: Your participation in high school activities is dependent on your eligibility. PROTECT that eligibility by reviewing with your parent(s)/guardian(s) this summary of Minnesota State High School League rules which govern your participation. Complete regulations are found in the MSHSL Official Handbook which is available at each member high school and which is also posted on the MSHSL Web site: www.mshsl.org. Please keep this brochure for reference, and if there is a question about any rule interpretation, **CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL OR ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR.**

I understand that once I sign the eligibility statement all eligibility rules apply:

- Twelve (12) months of the year;
- Whether I am currently participating or not;
- Continuously from the first signing of the statement.

Parents/Guardians: REVIEW the following rules with your son or daughter. Your role in stressing the value of following these rules cannot be overstated.

Checklist for Student Eligibility (If you cannot check all 6 items, see your athletic/activities director or principal)

- | | |
|---|--|
| _____ 1. Making academic progress toward graduation. | _____ 4. Have not and will not use or possess tobacco or alcoholic beverages, use, consume, have in possession, buy, sell or give away any other controlled substance, including steroids. |
| _____ 2. Will not have turned 20 before the start of the season in which I participate. | _____ 5. Have not and will not violate the racial/religious/sexual harassment/violence/and hazing bylaws of the MSHSL. |
| _____ 3. Have not dropped out of school or repeated a grade while in high school. | _____ 6. I agree to fully cooperate in any investigation honestly and truthfully. |

GENERAL RULES

1. **ACADEMIC** — (Credit Requirement) To be eligible, a student must be making satisfactory progress toward the school's requirement for graduation.
2. **AGE** — A student representing a member school in League activities shall be under 20 years of age on the date of the contest. If, however, a student has started a season, the student will be permitted to complete that season after reaching the student's 20th birthday.
3. **AMATEUR** — Use of a fine arts ability or skill for personal gain when not performing for or representing the student's school will not disqualify the student from participating in League-sponsored activities.
4. **AMATEUR STATUS AND AWARDS BYLAW** — Acceptable awards to students in recognition of participation in high school activities include medals, ribbons, letters, trophies, plaques and other items of little or no intrinsic value (\$100.00 or less). Violation will render a student ineligible for participation in that activity.
5. **COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY TEAMS** — A student shall not have been, at any time, a contestant representing a school higher than a secondary school.
6. **FAIR HEARING PROCEDURE** — The League Constitution provides a Fair Hearing Procedure for the student or parent contesting a school's determination of ineligibility for a student. **The student has 10 calendar days in which to appeal the school's decision.** The appeals process includes an appeal before a hearing panel at the school and the right, if desired, to appeal that decision to the League's Board of Directors. An independent hearing examiner will hear the appeal and make written findings of fact, conclusions and a recommendation for the Board of Directors following the hearing. The Board's decision shall be final. A complete listing of the Fair Hearing Procedure may be obtained from the athletic director or principal of the high school or on Web at www.mshsl.org in the Publications section.
7. **ENROLLMENT, ATTENDANCE, AND REQUIRED SUBJECT LOAD** — Students must be fully enrolled in (as defined by the Minnesota Department of Education) and attending the school before they are eligible to represent that school in League-sponsored activities. Students must be properly registered, attending school and classes regularly, and enrolled in the required number of credits to graduate in four (4) years after entering the 9th grade.
8. **GENERAL ELIGIBILITY** — In order to be eligible for regular season and MSHSL tournament competition, a student must be fully enrolled as defined by the Minnesota Department of Education and a

bona fide member of his or her high school in good standing. A student who is under penalty of exclusion, expulsion or suspension, whose character or conduct violates the Student Code of Responsibilities and is not in good standing, shall be ineligible for a period of time as determined by the principal.

Student Code of Responsibilities

As a student participating in my school's interscholastic activities, I understand and accept the following responsibilities:

1. *I will respect the rights and beliefs of others and will treat others with courtesy and consideration.*
 2. *I will be fully responsible for my own actions and the consequences of my actions*
 3. *I will respect the property of others.*
 4. *I will respect and obey the rules of my school and the laws of my community, state and country.*
 5. *I will show respect to those who are responsible for enforcing the rules of my school and the laws of my community, state and country.*
9. **GRADUATE** — A student shall not be a graduate of a four (4) year high school or any secondary school. Exception: foreign exchange student participating in an approved Foreign Exchange program and has not reached their 19th birthday.
 10. **SEMESTERS IN HIGH SCHOOL** — A student shall not participate in an interscholastic contest after the student's eighth semester in grades 9-12 inclusive. All eight semesters of attendance shall be consecutive, beginning in the 9th grade. The attendance of 15 days or more in one semester will count as a semester in administering this standard.
 11. **FOREIGN EXCHANGE**—Foreign exchange students are limited to 1 year of high school eligibility.
 12. **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS** — students not participating in a CSJET approved foreign exchange program are eligible only at the B-squad or JV level for one year.
 13. **MOOD-ALTERING CHEMICALS**
 - A. **Bylaw 205**

During the calendar year, a student shall not at any time, regardless of the quantity: (1) use or consume, have in possession a beverage containing alcohol; (2) use or consume, have in possession tobacco; or, (3) use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away any other controlled substance or drug paraphernalia.

 1. The bylaw applies to the 12-month calendar year.

2. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a controlled substance specifically prescribed for the student's own use by her/his doctor.

B. Penalties for Category I Fine Arts Activities

(Category I Activities Defined: 1-Debate; 2-Speech activities, including One Act Play, when a school schedules a season of interscholastic contests.)

1. First Violation: After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next two (2) consecutive interscholastic contests or two (2) weeks of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
2. Second Violation: After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next six (6) consecutive interscholastic contests in which the student is a participant or three (3) weeks, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
3. Third and Subsequent Violations: After confirmation of the third or subsequent violations, the student shall lose eligibility for the next twelve (12) consecutive interscholastic contests in which the student is a participant or four (4) weeks, whichever is greater. If after the third or subsequent violations, the student has been assessed to be chemically dependent and the student on her/his own volition becomes a participant in a chemical dependency program or treatment program, then the student may be certified for reinstatement in MSHSL activities after a minimum period of six (6) weeks. Such certification must be issued by the director or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center.
4. Consecutive Penalties: Penalties shall be consecutive beginning with the student's first participation in a League activity and continuing through the student's high school career.
5. Denial Disqualification: A student shall be disqualified from all interscholastic fine arts activities for nine (9) additional weeks beyond the student's original period of ineligibility when the student denies violation of the rule, is allowed to participate and then is subsequently found guilty of the violation.

C. Penalties for Category II Fine Arts Activities

(Category II Activities Defined: 1-Debate; 2-Speech activities, including One Act Play, when a school schedules no interscholastic contests and participates only in the League-sponsored tournament series; 3-Music activities; 4-Visual Arts activities.)

1. Each member school shall develop penalties, which it will apply to the participants in these activities.
2. Consecutive Penalties: Penalties shall be consecutive beginning with the student's first participation in a League activity and continuing through the student's high school career.

**14. SEXUAL/RACIAL/RELIGIOUS HARASSMENT/
VIOLENCE AND HAZING**

A. Reference Bylaw 209.00:

A student shall not engage in the sexual, racial, religious harassment, violence or hazing during the school year or any portion of an activity season that occurs prior to the start of the school year or after the close of the school year.

B. Reporting Procedures:

1. Any person who believes he or she has been the victim of sexual, racial, religious harassment, violence or hazing or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct, which may constitute hazing, shall report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate school district official designated by this policy.

2. The building principal is the person responsible for receiving reports of sexual, racial, religious harassment, violence or hazing at the building level. Any person may report hazing directly to a school district human rights officer or to the superintendent.
3. Teachers, administrators, officials, volunteers, and employees of the school district shall be particularly alert to possible situations, circumstances or events which might include sexual, racial, religious harassment, violence or hazing. Any such person who receives a report of, observes, or had other knowledge or belief of conduct, which may constitute sexual, racial, religious harassment, violence or hazing, shall inform the building principal immediately.
4. Submission of a good faith complaint or report of sexual, racial, religious harassment, violence or hazing will not affect the complainant or reporter's future employment, grades or work assignments.

C. Reprisal

The school district will discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, coach, official contractor or employee of the school district who retaliates against any person who makes a good faith report of alleged sexual, racial, religious harassment, violence or hazing or against any person who testifies, assists, or participates in an investigation, or against any person who testifies, assists or participates in a proceeding or hearing relating to such sexual, racial, religious harassment, violence or hazing. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to, any form of intimidation, reprisal or harassment.

D. Penalties for Category I Activities:

1. First Violation: the student shall lose eligibility for the next two (2) consecutive interscholastic contests or two (2) weeks, 14 calendar days, of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater.
Recommendations: 1) It is recommended that the school develop a local education program through which the student would receive information about sexual, racial, religious harassment, violence or hazing. 2) It is recommended that, when appropriate, the school refer a student to a community agency or a professional individual outside the school for counseling.
2. Second Violation: the student shall lose eligibility for the next six (6) consecutive interscholastic contests or three (3) weeks, 21 calendar days, whichever is greater, in which the student is a participant.
Recommendation: It is recommended that before being re-admitted to activities following suspension for the second violation, the student shall show evidence in writing that the student has received counseling from a community agency or professional individual such as a school counselor, medical doctor, psychiatrist, or psychologist.
3. Third or Subsequent Violations: the student shall lose eligibility for the next twelve (12) consecutive interscholastic contests or four (4) weeks, 28 calendar days, whichever is greater, in which the student is a participant.
4. Progressive Penalties: Penalties shall be progressive beginning with the first violation and continuing throughout the student's high school career. Penalties shall be served consecutively.

E. Penalties for Category II Activities:

Each member school shall develop penalties that it will apply to the participants in these activities. A current copy of the member school's policy shall be kept on file in the member school

