

Avery ISD Extracurricular Handbook



2021-2022

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Mikayla Langford...Cheerleaders
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Janet Fain.....	Middle School Beta
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Mission

The **mission** of the Director of Athletics and Program Sponsors at Avery ISD is to provide all students an opportunity to participate in a highly competitive and comprehensive extracurricular program that will enhance learning through excellence, while developing character, integrity, responsibility and sportsmanship as indicators for success. This handbook has been designed to aid the coach/sponsor, students, and parents in the knowledge of policies and procedures of the extracurricular programs in AISD, which will help us maintain a level of prestige among other districts. Each coach/sponsor is responsible for following the guidelines in the handbook.

Extracurricular Code

Students selected to an Avery ISD extracurricular team must recognize this distinction as an honor and privilege and must be held accountable to a greater standard than that of the general school population. The students involved in extracurricular activities are recognized as representatives of the individual school as well as the district, and as such, must demonstrate the highest levels of character and behavior. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director and each coach/sponsor to ensure this high level of expectation. Coaches/sponsors must monitor the character and behavior of team members in and out of season, in and out of uniform, and on and off campus. The inordinate amount of time coaches/sponsors spend in various curricular and co-curricular activities provides a unique opportunity to observe, assist, and intercede to help the students make good decisions.

Extracurricular Departmental Objectives

The Director of Athletics and Program Directors/Sponsors are dedicated to AISD being recognized as a premier extracurricular program in the state of Texas. In order to obtain this extraordinary level of competence, each person within the extracurricular program must demand excellence of himself/herself, as well as each individual for whom he/she is responsible.

Therefore, the Director of Athletics and Program Directors/Sponsors are firmly committed to the following general objectives, which must be present in each activity and on every level, in order to continue in the pursuit of excellence for which our community has grown to expect.

- Increasing participation in all activities
- Including as many activities as possible to meet the needs of the students
- Providing adequate and equitable funding for all programs
- Affording all students the opportunity to try out for all activities
- Treating all students, parents, coaches/sponsors, district employees, opponents, and community supporters with dignity and respect
- Recruiting and hiring the best coaches/sponsors possible
- Encouraging continual development of coaches/sponsors
- Exhibiting outstanding sportsmanship in victory and defeat
- Developing lifelong skills needed in a competitive society
- Stressing the importance of excellence in the classroom, as well as in competition
- Fielding competitive teams in each category

Extracurricular Eligibility (No Pass. No Play)

Students enrolled in extracurricular programs will be held to the U.I.L. No Pass, No Play standards. Grades shall be checked and monitored regularly, including the provision for students to use Grade Check reports at intervals specified by the coach or director/sponsor. At the end of each grading period the principal will publish the official Grade Report. A student failing a course will be ineligible to participate in accordance with current U.I.L. eligibility guidelines.

Extracurricular Attendance Procedures

A student absent from school may not play or participate on that day unless:

- He/she attends school for a half day;
- An acceptable parent or doctor's excuse is submitted;
- The student is involved in a school activity; and
- The students' time in DAEP or ISS (if applicable) is completed.

After the student meets one of the four above options, the student must also get signed approval from all of the following:

- Athletic Director (if participating in athletics)
- Team coach, sponsor or director
- Campus Principal

Each coach, sponsor or director may establish attendance procedures in addition to those listed above. These procedures will be timely communicated to the parent and student.

Extracurricular Practice Procedures

Participant requirements prior to first practice

- All eligibility requirements have been satisfied
- Completed physical examination form if required
- Completed emergency medical cards
- Completed parent-student responsibility acknowledgement forms
- Fees paid (if any)

Practice Procedures

- Practice sessions shall be scheduled so as to create a minimum amount of daily conflict with normal family activities and study time.
- Practice sessions should be well planned, well structured, and not to exceed the eight-hour rule set by UIL.
- Coaches and sponsors should be the first to arrive and the last to leave the practice sessions. At no time are students to practice without supervision.
- All equipment used in practice sessions shall be returned to its proper storage location at the end of each practice. The practice area must be clean and secured
- Practice with the team or organization while assigned to ISS or DAEP is prohibited.

Restricted Practices

Early Dismissal of School or Emergency Closing

In the event there is a scheduled early dismissal of school, practices may be held if the building principal has given permission.

Extracurricular Conflicts with Other Activities

Students participating in more than one activity could possibly have conflicts from time to time. Please notify the coaches/sponsors as soon as the conflict arises. The following order will be used to help settle these conflicts:

- State
- Regional Events
- Area
- Bi-District
- District
- Non-District
- Scrimmages
- Practice

Extracurricular Code of Conduct

A student involved in extracurricular activities in Avery ISD may be subject to disciplinary action if he/she commits violations including, but not limited to, the following:

- Misuse of technology, including use of the Internet and social networks as follows:
 1. Send, post, or possess electronic messages that are obscene or sexually oriented, abusive, threatening, harassing or illegal
 2. Anything that would damage another's reputation, including cyberbullying and sexting, either on or off school property
- Falsification of a signature or information on any UIL required pre-participation form
- Theft or vandalism of any property
- Acts of unsportsmanlike conduct during the sport/activity season in which the student is involved including, but not limited to cheating, fighting, verbal abuse of officials, contestants, coaches or spectators, or foul language and obscene actions
- Acts of poor citizenship in the classroom or in the community, such as but not limited to disrespect of the teacher, the law, or other students
- Gambling in any form
- Violation of the dual participation policy
- Any act or acts deemed inappropriate in the Student Code of Conduct
- Conduct which requires placement in AEP or DAEP

Communications and Social Media

Certain standards are necessary for the integrity and reputation of any organization. Each participant in extracurricular activities should be a leader within the school and should set a good example before the public at all times. Student participants are expected to set a good example for their classmates, be honest and truthful, show good sportsmanship, and show respect for the school, other team members, students, teachers, directors, and coaches at all times. Students engaging in inappropriate communications, including communications on social media that do not uphold the standards and expectations of the AISD extracurricular programs, may be subject to disciplinary actions by the coach, director, sponsor, or school administration.

Consequences

Consequences may include but are not limited to benching from activities, practices, and competitions, and removal from teams or activities, at the discretion of the coach, director, sponsor, or administrator.

Grievances

Grievances against coaches, sponsors or directors must follow the proper chain of command before the grievance will be discussed. Approaching the coach, principal, or superintendent regarding a grievance at a school event or non-related school event will not be tolerated or allowed. An appointment with the appropriate school official must be made to discuss any grievance. The proper chain of command is:

1. Coach, Sponsor or Director
2. Principal
3. Superintendent or designee

Extracurricular Transportation Policy/Procedure

School Sponsored Trips in General

Students who participate in school-sponsored trips shall be required to ride in transportation provided by the school to and from the event. Exceptions may be made in the following circumstances:

1. A student in prekindergarten–grade 6 may be allowed to ride home with a parent or other adult designated by the parent on the approved pick-up list or if prior written request is submitted to the principal or designee.
2. A student in grades 7–12 may be allowed to ride home with a parent if the parent presents a written request to the coach or sponsor. A student shall only be permitted to ride home with another adult designated by the parent if the District travel release form is submitted to and approved by the principal or designee prior to the trip.

In-State Overnight Trips

The campus principal shall have authority to approve in-state overnight trips by student organizations and other student groups.

Out-of-State Trips

Any out-of-state trips by student organizations or other student groups shall require approval from the Superintendent.

Travel Release Procedure

With coach, director or sponsor approval, students may be excused from riding from an event on school-authorized transportation. Extension of this privilege is at coach, director or sponsor discretion.

- The coach, director or sponsor will make available a sign-out procedure.
- Students will be released to the designated parent(s) or approved adult by the coach, director or sponsor.
- In no case will a student be allowed to ride home with another student.

Bus Procedure

- The buses need to be left clean and litter free.
- Athletes are not to wear any type of spiked shoes on the bus.
- The emergency door will only be used in case of emergency unless instructed otherwise by the driver.

Extracurricular Traveling Procedure (Dress/Behavior)

- All students are expected to dress appropriately and neatly for all events when representing Avery Independent School District.
- All students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that represents the district in a positive manner
- All actions should not violate the Student Code of Conduct or Board policy.

Mandatory Drug Testing Policy

Avery ISD requires drug testing of any student in grades 7–12 who chooses to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities or requests a permit to park a vehicle on school property. A student participating in these activities or requesting a parking permit shall be randomly tested throughout the school year. Students covered under the Mandatory Drug Testing Program include all students participating in school-sponsored extracurricular activities (UIL and non UIL), clubs, and any student driving on campus or requesting a parking permit. Random tests shall be conducted on as many as six dates throughout the school year.

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit, the student shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit.

REFUSAL TO TEST OR TAMPERING

A student who refuses to be tested when selected or who is determined to have tampered with a sample shall be deemed to have a positive test result and shall be subject to the appropriate consequences depending on previous positive test results, if any.

CONFIRMATION OF POSITIVE RESULTS

Upon receiving results of a positive drug test, the District shall schedule a meeting with the student, the student's parent if the student is under the age of 18, and the coach or sponsor of the extracurricular activity, as applicable, to review the test results and discuss consequences. The principal shall chair the meeting. The student or parent shall have three school days following the meeting to provide a medical explanation for a positive result. However, appropriate consequences shall begin immediately following the meeting with the parent or guardian.

RETESTING

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or have a parking permit reinstated after any applicable consequences, the student must be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative test result. Following that, the student shall be retested on all random test dates so long as the student wishes to participate in extracurricular activities or park a vehicle on school property.

Parents & students must sign the release form granting consent for random drug testing before the student may participate.

CONSEQUENCES

Consequences of positive test results shall be cumulative through the student's enrollment in the District. **Note:** nothing in this policy shall limit or affect the application of state law, local policy, or the Student Code of Conduct. A student who commits a disciplinary offense shall be subject to consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

FIRST OFFENSE: Upon a first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student will be suspended from any extracurricular activity, and the student's parking permit shall be suspended, for 30 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

After a first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, the student may complete a counseling program with a provider chosen from a list of district-approved abuse counselors to reduce suspension by 5 calendar days.

During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

SECOND OFFENSE: Upon a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student will be suspended from any extracurricular activity, and the student's parking permit shall be suspended, for 45 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

After a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, the student may complete a counseling program with a provider chosen from a list of district-approved abuse counselors to reduce suspension by 5 calendar days.

During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

THIRD AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES: Upon a third or any subsequent offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student will be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity, and the student's parking permit shall be suspended, for 365 calendar days following the date the student & parent are notified of the test results.

During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

The fourth offense will result in permanent removal from all extracurricular activities and permanent suspension of the student's parking permit.

APPEALS

A student or parent may appeal a decision made under this policy in accordance with FNG (LOCAL). The student shall be ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities or reinstatement of parking privileges while the appeal is pending.

[For further information, see policy FNF (LOCAL). Also see **Steroids.**]

In addition to the above prohibitions, no student shall inhale, ingest, apply, use, or possess an abusable glue, aerosol paint, or substance containing a volatile chemical with intent to inhale, ingest, apply, or use any of these in a manner:

- Contrary to directions for use, cautions, or warnings appearing on a label of a container of the glue, paint, and/or substance.
- Designed to affect the central nervous system, create or induce a condition of intoxication, hallucination, or elation, or change, distort, or disturb the person's eyesight, thinking process, balance, or coordination.

Any violation involving drugs and/or alcohol will be handled in accordance to the AISD Student Code of Conduct and in accordance with Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code. The consequences for alcohol related offenses will be consistent with the Mandatory Drug Testing Policy. Subsection 37.006 requires that a district place into a DAEP a student who commits a felony or any of the specific misdemeanors on or within 300 feet of school property or while the student is attending a school sponsored or school related activity on or off school property.

ANY STUDENT PLACED IN A DAEP or AEP FOR DISCIPLINE REASONS UNDER THIS SECTION IS INELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION IN COMPETITIVE ATHLETICS OR ANY OTHER SCHOOL SPONSORED OR SCHOOL RELATED EXTRACURRICULAR OR SOCIAL ACTIVITY. THE STUDENT IS INELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY ASPECT OF THAT PROGRAM UNTIL THE AEP or DAEP PLACEMENT IS COMPLETED. (Example: One day of AEP completion would be at 2:20 pm or upon the end of the school day for that campus.)

Injuries and Concussions

Students who suffer injuries or illness in connection with extracurricular activities must consult a doctor or trainer within 24 hours. If an injury or illness hinders or limits a student's performance and/or practice capabilities, that student will be required to provide doctor's note outlining the specific limitations. Injured athletes and participants are expected to attend all events and practices in accordance with their doctor's notes. A student with a concussion must follow the AISD/UIIL concussion policy until he or she is cleared to participate under the standards set forth by the AISD/UIIL concussion policy, to the same extent as if the extracurricular activity was an interscholastic athletic activity.

LETTER JACKET POLICY

Athletics Letterman Policy

An athlete may earn a letterman's jacket if:

1. He/She individually qualifies for regionals or state in an individual sport (Cross Country, Golf, Track, Tennis)
2. He/She receives an All-District honor in a team sport (Basketball, Volleyball, Softball, Baseball)
3. He/She has been a contributing member of a varsity team for two years
4. He/She has received recognition or an award from one of the Texas coaches associations.

If an athlete has not reached any of the above, they will receive a jacket their junior year, if they are still participating in a sport.

Exceptions to lettering qualifications:

An athlete (including transfers) who has not met the above requirements may earn a letterman jacket his/her senior year at the discretion of the head coach and athletic director.

Forfeiture of letterman jacket:

Any athlete who has qualified for a letterman jacket but has been dismissed from the squad for disciplinary actions or did not complete the season will not receive an award.

Academic UIL Letterman Policy

A student must advance to regionals to earn a letterman's jacket.

OAP Letterman Policy

OAP must advance to area for the cast and crew to earn a letterman's jacket.

Letter Jacket Policy

VASE participants may be eligible to receive a Letterman's jacket during their junior year by participating in VASE for at least two years. To receive a Letter Jacket all of the following must be completed:

- Must compete in VASE competition two or more years with at least one regional medal or advance to State competition with any entry.
- Must remain in good standing with the sponsor and his/her peers.

FRESHMEN MAY NOT RECEIVE A VARSITY LETTERMAN'S JACKET for any extracurricular activity. However, they may earn their letter during this time and receive their jacket his/her sophomore year.

ORDERING OF A LETTERMAN'S JACKET

1. Letterman Jackets will be ordered TWO times per school year.
2. Coaches, as well as Directors and Sponsors of an extracurricular activity must present the Principal with a list of their Varsity Letterman TWO weeks prior to ordering date for approval. The Principal will forward this approved list to the Athletic Director for final approval and ordering.
3. Ordering Dates:
 - A. 1st Week of October (Prior year Spring Sports, Cheerleading, Academic UIL, OAP, VASE)
 - B. 1st Week of April (Prior year Fall Sports or Band)
4. Distribution of Letterman Jackets
 - A. The Athletic Director or extracurricular director or sponsor will distribute letterman Jackets.
5. Avery ISD will pay for the JACKET and the LETTER. Any additional patches must be paid by the student/parent.

*****For specific questions regarding the criteria to letter in an individual sport or organization, please contact the individual head coach, sponsor or director*

ATHLETICS

The mission of Avery ISD Athletics is to enhance the academic experience and encourage learning through excellence in athletics, while developing character, integrity, responsibility and sportsmanship as indicators for success. Furthermore, it is our vision to build winning programs that promote student-success and recognizes the value of each individual student as a participant while.

“Building Champions through Character and Commitment”

STUDENT-ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

As a student-athlete representing Avery ISD, you have the responsibility to uphold all Avery ISD rules and regulations, as well as any other policies or procedures imposed by the Athletic Department and individual team coaches. Avery Athletics is committed to helping you develop your maximum academic and athletic potential. You are responsible for being knowledgeable about and adhering to the information contained in this handbook.

1.1 Behavioral Expectations

By agreeing to participate in the Avery Athletics Program you will have many additional demands and expectations placed on you. As a student-athlete you will receive more scrutiny than your peers and are expected to develop and maintain a high standard of personal behavior. The expectations include, but are not limited to the following:

- 1.1.1 Represent Avery ISD in an appropriate manner.
- 1.1.2 Respect for the personal worth, dignity and rights of others.
- 1.1.3 Exhibit a positive work ethic, pursue academic excellence, and improve in athletic skills and performance.
- 1.1.4 Practice personal and academic integrity.
- 1.1.5 Dress in a mutually respectable manner that represents the school in a positive light. Each coach will determine specific standards of dress and grooming.
- 1.1.6 Care for equipment and facilities by using equipment properly and safely, cleaning up after yourself and taking care of any clothing or equipment issued to you.
- 1.1.7 Respect for school policy as well as local, state and federal laws. The athletic department reserves the right to penalize students for misbehavior outside athletics.

1.2 Sportsmanship

Avery ISD is dedicated to the principles of sportsmanship and fair-play, as well as character-building through interscholastic athletics. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all activity disciplines. Student athletes are expected to abide by the following:

- 1.2.1 Student-athletes are expected to treat all players, coaches, officials and spectators with

respect and sportsmanship.

- 1.2.2 Use of obscene or inappropriate language and gestures while competing is prohibited.
- 1.2.3 Student-athletes may not strike or physically abuse any spectator, official, coach or player.
- 1.2.4 If any infraction causes an athlete to be ejected from a sporting event, the athlete shall be suspended from the next athletic activity. An ejection for any unsportsmanlike act or activity will result in a suspension. These infractions will include but are not limited to fighting (which is an altercation between two or more athletes that includes but is not limited to swinging, hitting, and punching) and inappropriate language with an official.
- 1.2.5 Penalties for an Ejection:
 - Football - ejection from that contest and miss the next contest.
 - All other sports - ejection from that contest and miss the next two contests.
- 1.2.6 Any action that violates Avery ISD standards as determined by the athletic director shall result in penalties and/or additional punishment.
- 1.2.7 The athletic director will report any player ejections to the superintendent the next school day along with the appropriate punishment.

1.3 Academic Responsibility

The primary objective of all student-athletes at Avery ISD is to earn a high school diploma and develop the necessary skills for success in life. You have the responsibility to attend class, pay attention, and behave with manners in order to achieve this objective.

- 1.3.1 Student-athletes are expected to be in class on time, prepared to learn, and complete all assignment by the allotted deadline.
- 1.3.2 Student-athletes are expected to attend all practices and games as they are structured to supplement the overall learning process across the curriculum by teaching time-management, goal setting, and discipline.
- 1.3.3 When students miss class for extracurricular activities, both the coaches and the student athletes are expected to communicate in advance with faculty to find out what work and lesson will be covered during the time of absence.

1.4 Social Media

With the development of the increased prominence of social networking sites, student-athletes must be careful with their electronic communications. Any communication by a coach or student-athlete that compromises the integrity or reputation of Mount Vernon ISD shall result in penalties.

- 1.4.1 Remember that electronic communication posted in open forums is out of your control, but you will be responsible for a parent post that is obscene or negligent.
- 1.4.2 Assume that all material posted will be seen by your mother, father, coach, teacher, and the school principal.
- 1.4.3 Student-athletes should refrain from posting information, photos, or other items online that could embarrass your family, your team, and Mount Vernon ISD.
- 1.4.4 Do not post the following:
 - Personal information such as address, phone number, and date of birth.

- Do not post nudity or obscene gestures.

- 1.4.5 Use of obscene or inappropriate language and gestures while competing is prohibited.
- 1.4.6 Student-athletes may not strike or physically abuse any spectator, official, coach or player.
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- 1.5.2 Student-athletes are expected to attend all practices and games as they are structured to supplement the overall learning process across the curriculum by teaching time-management, goal setting, and discipline.
- 1.5.3 When students miss class for extracurricular activities, both the coaches and the student athletes are expected to communicate in advance with faculty to find out what work and lesson will be covered during the time of absence.

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With the development of the increased prominence of social networking sites, student-athletes must be careful with their electronic communications. Any communication by a coach or student-athlete that compromises the integrity or reputation of Mount Vernon ISD shall result in penalties.

- 1.6.1 Remember that electronic communication posted in open forums is out of your control, but you will be responsible for a parent post that is obscene or negligent.
- 1.6.2 Assume that all material posted will be seen by your mother, father, coach, teacher, and the school principal.
- 1.6.3 Student-athletes should refrain from posting information, photos, or other items online that could embarrass your family, your team, and Mount Vernon ISD.
- 1.6.4 Do not post the following:
 - Personal information such as address, phone number, and date of birth.
 - Do not post nudity or obscene gestures.

- Do not post comments discussing issues with your team or coach.
- 1.6.5 You will be held accountable for communication that compromises the reputation of your team, school, or community.

1.7 Tobacco/ Drugs/ Alcohol

The use of tobacco products is prohibited for all student-athletes, coaches, game officials, and athletic staff in all sports during practice and competition. Violation of this rule will result in immediate dismissal from practice or competition.

The use of illegal drugs (not prescribed by a doctor) and alcohol is strictly prohibited for student-athletes at Avery ISD. Student-athletes are subject to random drug testing.

1.8 Team Rules

Coaches will supplement the Athletic Handbook with expectations that are specific to their sport. Student-athletes who violate team rules are subject to penalties imposed by the specific sport's coach. Additionally, students who begin and quit a sport must follow the proper procedure.

- 1.8.1 Participation in each sport will be based on meeting the requirements for eligibility as well as the requirements set by the respective coaching staff.

1.8 Quitting A Sport

Any student who wishes to quit a program must:

- a. Bring a note from parents stating that they are aware of his/her intentions and its implications.
- b. Forfeits his/her right to participate in that sport and will not be able to participate in another sport until the team's' season is over that the athlete quit.
- c. If the head coach agrees that it would be in the best interest of both the program and the athlete that the student quits, there will be no penalty and the athlete will be able to participate at that point.
- d. There will be a two-week grace period from the day the athlete begins the sport. (If the athlete quits during the grace period there will be no penalty).

1.9 Athletic Injuries or Illness

The health and well being of each student-athlete is paramount at Avery ISD. Students who sustain injury or illness should follow the steps below:

1. Report the injury or illness to the head coach immediately.
2. Report the injury or illness to your parent.
3. The coach will assess the situation and refer you to an athletic trainer or contact your parent to discuss a doctor's visit if necessary.
4. A note from a physician or athletic trainer must be submitted to the coach before a student-athlete will be allowed to return to practice and competition.

COACH/PARENT RELATIONSHIP

Both parenting and coaching are very difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding between coaches and parents, both are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a more positive experience for everyone.

Parents have the right to know, and understand, the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches have the right to know that if parents have a concern, they will discuss it with the coach at the appropriate time and place.

Communication parents should expect from their child's coach:

1. Coach's philosophy.
2. Expectations the coach has for your son or daughter, as well as other players on the team.
3. Locations and times of practices and contests.
4. Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment needed, school & team rules, off-season expectations.
5. Procedures that will be followed if your child becomes injured during participation.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

1. Concerns regarding their son or daughter expressed directly to the coach at the appropriate time and place.
2. Specific concerns in regard to the coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
3. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance. As your child becomes involved in interscholastic athletics, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It's important to understand there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. These are the times discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach:

1. The mental and physical treatment of your child.
2. What your child needs to do to improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior. It is very difficult to accept that your child is not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches' make decisions based on what they believe is in the best interests of all students participating. As you can see from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those listed next, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues NOT appropriate for discussion with your child's coach:

1. How much playing time each athlete is getting.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Any situation that deals with other student-athletes. There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and parent. These are not discouraged, as it is important for each party to have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, refer to (*UIL Parent Information Manual*), the following procedure is suggested to help promote resolution to the issue.

If a parent has a concern to discuss with the coach, the following procedure should be followed:

1. Call the coach to set up an appointment.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic administrator and ask him or her to set up a meeting with the coach for you.
3. Think about what you expect to accomplish as a result of the meeting.
4. Stick to discussing the facts, as you understand them.
5. Do not confront the coach before, during or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution of the situation, but often escalate it.

What should a parent do if the meeting with the coach didn't provide satisfactory resolution?

1. Call the athletic administrator to set up a meeting with the athletic administrator, coach, and parent present.
2. At this meeting, an appropriate next step can be determined, if necessary.
3. Student's involvement in co-curricular activities has been proven to increase their chances of success later in life. We hope the information contained in this manual helps make that experience more enjoyable for everyone involved.
4. If another meeting is necessary, the athletic administrator will contact the principal to set up the meeting and inform all involved parties of the date and time.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS

- Remember that you are at the contest to support and yell for your team, and to enjoy the skill and competition; not to intimidate or ridicule the other team or its fans.
- Remember that school athletics are a learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made.
- Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, and as people, just as you would praise a student working in the classroom.

- A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious.
- Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before, during, and after the game on or near the site of the event (i.e. tailgating).
- Use only cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Be a positive role model at events through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.
- Parents and spectators should be aware that the school can (and should) remove them from the premises and can prohibit them from attending future contests due to undesirable behaviors.
- Game officials can ask that school administrators have unruly fans removed from a contest facility.
- There is no such thing as a “right” to attend interscholastic athletics. Interscholastic athletics are considered a “privilege” and the spectator who avails themselves of it is expected to conduct themselves accordingly.

Equipment and Facilities

Use of Equipment and Facilities

It is important to emphasize to all students their responsibility to take care of school equipment and facilities and to report any abuses to their coach/sponsor. Replacing equipment and repair to facilities can only result in a loss of funding that could be used elsewhere in the extracurricular program.

Athletics Department-issued equipment is to be worn only during practice sessions and interscholastic contests, or by permission of coaches. At no times are athletes to wear school-issued equipment or uniforms for:

- Work or Job
- Socially
- School Wear

Collection and Storage of Equipment

As students turn in their equipment, it should be checked off his/her equipment card noting the condition of all returned equipment.

Athletes are expected to:

- Keep their equipment within their locker as directed by coaches;
- Take ownership of school facilities and assist in making sure they are well cared for; and
- Be financially responsible for any lost items checked out to them by the Athletic Department.

If any equipment is lost or has abnormal usage, the student will be charged a replacement cost. The following actions will take place until all financial obligations are met:

- The athlete will not receive any Honors or awards; and
- The athlete will have his/her parking privileges revoked.
- A list of students still delinquent at the end of the school year will be turned in to the building principal.

ELIGIBILITY

As a member school of the University Interscholastic League (UIL), Avery ISD is dedicated to ensuring that all student-athletes meet the requirements outlined for participation in interscholastic athletics.

Disciplinary Action

Major Offense- 3 Strike Policy:

Major offenses may include but are not limited to hazing, harassment or stealing or any other serious violation of the law or rules.

Strike 1: 1ST Offense – Suspension from competition for up to 15 days.

Athlete must still attend all practices.

Strike 2: 2nd Offense – Suspension from competition for up to 30 days.

Athlete must still attend all practices.

Strike 3: 3rd Offense – Removed from athletics for one calendar year. Re-admittance must be approved through the Athletic Director and will be based on grades and disciplinary record during the time away from athletics.

Minor Offense- Policy:

The coach will address penalties assigned to minor offenses. Examples of minor offenses may include but are not limited to:

1. Profanity- will not be allowed.
2. Attire- Athletes will wear appropriate attire while at practice, games and travelling. The head coach of each sport will set the requirements during that season.
3. Hair Length (Males)- Hair must be neatly trimmed and may not extend below the eyebrow. Hair may not extend beyond the ear lobe or below dress shirt collar.
4. Punctuality- Athletes must be on time to practice, competition, class, meetings and departures.
5. Cleanliness- Keep your locker and the locker room clean.
6. Classroom Behavior – Student Athletes are expected to be leaders on and off the athletic fields and courts. How they conduct themselves in the classroom is of the utmost importance.

Cheerleader/Mascot Rules and Guidelines

I. PURPOSES OF THE ORGANIZATION

- A. Maintain and promote school spirit through support of athletics and all school organizations.
- B. Provide school spirit in conjunction with school activities when requested.
- C. Develop the following traits in each member:
 - 1. Leadership
 - 2. Cooperation
 - 3. Responsibility
 - 4. Scholarship
 - 5. Sportsmanship
 - 6. High standards of conduct and morals
 - 7. Athletic abilities
 - 8. Friendliness among members as a group and other members of similar groups
- D. Provide community services to promote school and community relations.

II. MEMBERSHIP

- A. All students enrolled in AISD are eligible. Students who have been **removed** from the squad may not try out again for one calendar year from the date of removal. Students who have **quit** may not try out again. If a student quits and requests to come back after a brief absence, it will be considered upon discretion of the sponsor(s) and principal. If a student quits, they are still financially responsible for any fees the squad has incurred on their behalf.
- B. Every member will try out each year for a position on a squad.

Of Positions Available will depend on number of students trying out
High School: If 11 or less try out a squad of 8 will be chosen. If 12 or more try out a squad of 10 will be chosen.

Middle School: If 9 or less try out a squad of 6 will be chosen. If 10 or more try out a squad of 8 will be chosen.

*Cheer sponsors reserve the right to alter numbers depending on interest.

- C. Cheerleaders / mascot may be involved in other extracurricular activities but need to try and avoid schedule conflicts. The sponsor(s) does try to work around other activities, but you must treat cheerleading as you would volleyball, basketball etc.
- D. Cheerleaders and Mascot are required to attend cheerleading summer camp if one is scheduled

III. GRADE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Grades of each member will be examined at the end of each reporting period.
- B. A student shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity sponsored or sanctioned by Avery ISD after a grade evaluation period in which the student received a grade lower than the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100 in any academic class other than an identified honors or advanced class.
- C. Until the suspension is removed or the school year ends, the School shall review the grades of a student at the end of each three-week period following the date on which the suspension began. At the time of a review, the suspension is removed if the student's grade in each class, other than an identified honors or advanced class, is equal to or greater than the equivalent of 70 on a scale of 100. The principal and each of the student's teachers shall make the determination concerning the student's grades.
- D. A student suspended under Education Code 33.081 may practice or rehearse with other students for an extracurricular activity but may not participate in a competition or other public performance.
- E. **Please note two suspensions may result in removal.**

IV. ATTENDANCE/ABSENCES/TARDIES

- A. **A student who is not present for any required activity such as games, practices, or classes is considered absent.**

- B. Good attendance and punctuality are vital to becoming and maintaining an outstanding performing squad. Absences and tardies affect the entire squad by limiting activities when even one person is missing. It is important to not inconvenience the entire squad and the coach during practice/class or game time by being absent.

- C. **Excused absences** are defined as absences due to personal illness, death or serious illness in the family, wedding in the immediate family (parents or siblings), or other absences excused at the discretion of the sponsor(s) or principal. Illnesses need to be documented with a doctor's note.

- D. **Unexcused absences** are defined as absences due to work/job, vacations without at least 2 weeks prior notice, parties, concerts, or study time. Illnesses without a doctor's excuse. Routine doctor appointments (ones not related to an immediate illness or injury) will be considered unexcused. These appointments need to be scheduled on other days beyond practices or game days.

- E. **See the disciplinary action section for absences/tardies and demerit system.**

V. PRACTICES

Practices will be decided upon at the beginning of the school year by the sponsor(s). Cheerleaders who are involved in other extracurricular activities will be taken into consideration and planned around.

VI. DISCIPLINE

- A. Cheerleaders are leaders both **in and out** of the school setting and should strive to continually set the highest possible standards and examples for fellow students.

- B. Cheerleaders should conduct themselves at all times in such a manner that they will be a credit to themselves, their families, and Avery ISD. At all times, their attitudes are expected to be wholesome and their morals ideal.

- C. Discipline policies apply immediately after tryouts and continue until the end of the following year.

- D. The use of cell phones during practices and games is strictly forbidden.

- E. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION - A member may be temporarily suspended from cheerleader participation. The length of a suspension will be decided on by the advisor and/or principal, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct.
- F. **Please note that two suspensions may result in removal from the squad.**

REASONS FOR SUSPENSION:

1. Failure to abide by Cheerleader Rules and Guidelines
 2. Inappropriate conduct of a less serious nature
 3. Fighting
 4. Suspension from school for any reason
 5. Other good cause as determined by the sponsor and / or principal
 6. ISS
 7. Two incompletes on separate nine-weeks grade report
 8. Failure at the nine-weeks grading period
 9. Being late to practice/game twice in one week
- G. PERMANENT REMOVAL- A member may be removed from cheerleading for any of the following reasons. If removed, the member may be suspended from tryouts for one calendar year, from the date of the removal.

REASONS FOR REMOVAL:

1. Repeated failure to abide by Cheerleaders Rules and Guidelines
2. Inappropriate conduct of a serious nature, for example, theft, tobacco/alcohol/drug use, or any misconduct defined in the Avery ISD code of conduct
3. Two temporary suspensions
4. Two times in ISS
5. Suspension for two six-weeks reporting periods for failing grades
6. Other good cause as determined by the sponsor and / or principal

7. Receiving 5 demerits from sponsor
8. You will not be removed due to pregnancy, but you will not be able to perform due to the health risks to you and the child
9. DAEP (alternative school) is automatic removal

H. **DEMERITS** - Demerits will be given for the following reasons:

1. Causing dissension among the squad (arguing, gossiping, etc...)
2. Causing a fight among fellow cheerleaders
3. Arguing with a sponsor, head or co-head cheerleader, or anyone superior to you on the squad
4. Bullying of fellow cheerleaders or any other student
5. Not participating/cheering to fullest ability at the practices, games, and or other spirit events
6. Not wearing the correct uniform or accessories
7. Not calling a sponsor when you will be absent or late for practice, game and/or event
8. Missing practice, game, or event without giving a reasonable excuse in advance (doctor or family emergency) as defined in Section IV of the handbook. Missing a game or practice for an illness is an automatic 1 demerit unless there is a doctor's excuse.
9. Having a negative attitude or displaying a lack of effort
10. If a member is asked to learn or practice something on her own, and there is NO evidence of improvement
11. Not using proper hygiene (not shaving, bathing, or wearing deodorant)
12. If a teacher documents or reports any behavior problems to the sponsor
13. Anything the sponsor deems worthy of a demerit
14. Detention, of any kind, for any reason – 3 detentions = 1 demerit
15. **ISS- member automatically receives 3 demerits**

VII. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY/FUNDRAISERS

- A. Uniforms, warm-ups, and cheer bags will be issued at no cost to the cheerleader and will be returned upon the end of the year. Cheerleaders are responsible for the maintenance of the uniform and may have to pay additional costs if uniform is returned damaged or stained. Cheerleaders will be responsible for paying for camp attire (2 shirts & 2 shorts), shoes, bow, poms, and spandex.
- B. The high school cheerleaders and mascot will attend a summer camp. The summer camp will be an at home summer camp. The cost of the camp is determined per cheerleader and each will be responsible for the cost.
- C. The middle school and high school cheerleaders may have fundraising opportunities to help offset these costs. In order to receive money from the fundraisers the cheerleader must participate in fundraiser.

VIII. APPEARANCE

- A. Appropriate dress and grooming are expected during the regular school day and at all school activities. You must shave your under arms and legs before any appearance as a cheerleader. You must also bathe and wear deodorant at all times. You must never appear unclean.
- B. Face painting and colored hair sprays are okay for themed pep rallies, but must be washed out before the game.
- C. There are to be **NO VISIBLE TATTOOS!**
- D. Performance and practices
 - 1. Absolutely NO jewelry—as it may get caught during a stunt and be ripped out!
 - 2. NO GUM-during practices or performances
 - 3. Hair must be worn up or half up and completely out of your face when length makes it possible.

IX. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- A. Proper shoes and clothing will be required during practices and at games.
- B. Pre-game and pre-workout stretches are mandatory and the responsibility of each member.

X. UNIFORMS/CLOTHING

- A. Uniforms are only to be worn to performances and games.
- B. On game days appropriate clothing, which will be decided upon by the sponsor(s) and cheer captain, will be worn.
- C. Do not allow others to wear your uniform.

XI. PERFORMANCES

- A. Cheerleaders/Mascot will perform at all pep rallies.
- B. Middle School cheerleaders will perform at all Boys A-team games. Cheerleaders will cheer at Girl's A-team games if there are at least 4 or more cheerleaders available to cheer.
- C. High School cheerleaders will cheer at all Varsity Boys games. Cheerleaders will cheer at Varsity Girl's games if there are at least 4 or more cheerleaders available to cheer.

XII. TRANSPORTATION

- A. Members will be required to provide their own transportation to and from home games and workouts.
- B. All cheerleaders are required to ride the school bus or other school vehicle to each out of town game.
- C. Students may be signed out from away games by a parent only. Prior arrangements can be made by a parent (in person), if a student is to ride with someone else.

XIII. TRYOUTS

A. Cheerleader

1. All students enrolled in AISD are eligible with the exception of those students who have previously quit/were removed from the squad or any student who does not meet the following requirements.
2. Must not owe money to any AISD Cheer organization. If any candidate owes money to any AISD cheerleader account, they may not be able to learn the new skills for tryouts or be allowed to tryout until the debt has been paid in full. Also, if any candidate has a sibling who owes the AISD cheerleader account money, they may not try out for cheerleader either, until the debt has been paid in full.
3. Each candidate must meet eligibility requirements in accordance with UIL and ***Education Code 33.081.***

4. Each potential candidate will be given the opportunity to learn the skill, stretching techniques, and cheer/dance training for the tryout at pre-tryout practice(s).
5. Every squad member will try out each year for a position.
6. Tryouts are held in the spring. The date will be set while trying to avoid scheduling conflicts with other spring sports.
7. There will be a minimum of two independent judges. Each judge is given a rating sheet to complete.
8. Candidates will tryout in groups divided evenly according to number (no more than 3-4 per group). These positions will be assigned by drawing numbers.
 - a. Each group will perform a dance and chant.
 - b. Each candidate will perform a cheer individually as well as a jump series.
9. Candidates are evaluated on their own merit. There may be callbacks if necessary. Candidates' names are kept confidential; they are known by number only.
10. Points will be deducted for **discipline referrals/conduct referrals**.
11. The top scores after discipline/conduct points have been deducted will be the new squad members.
12. **Tryout practices and the tryout procedure are closed.** Parents and other family/friends will be required to wait outside the gym until tryouts are over.
13. **All candidates will wear white shirts with black shorts for tryouts.** Absolutely NO spandex shorts are to be worn for tryouts. No extremely short shorts are to be worn. Shirts are to be tucked in and clothing should be neat and clean. No jewelry should be worn. No tank tops, halter tops, etc. Following these rules will definitely increase your appearance score.

B. Mascot

1. All students enrolled in AISD are eligible with the exception of those students who have previously quit/were removed from the squad or any student who does not meet the requirements listed in the Cheerleader section above and this Mascot section.
2. Must not owe money to any AISD Cheer organization. If any candidate owes money to any AISD cheerleader account, they may not be able to learn the new

skills for tryouts, nor will they be allowed to tryout until the debt has been paid in full. Also, if any candidate has a sibling who owes the AISD cheerleader account money, they will may not try out for cheerleader either, until the debt has been paid in full.

3. Students will choreograph an original skit/dance on their own to be performed in front of the judges during tryouts. Students will also be responsible for their own music and props for this skit/dance.
4. Candidates will be chosen by a minimum of two independent judges. They will be given a mascot rating sheet to complete.
5. Each candidate will tryout individually.
6. Points will be deducted for **discipline referrals/conduct referrals**.
7. Each candidate must meet eligibility requirements in accordance with UIL and ***Education Code 33.081***.

D. Cheerleader Captain

1. You must be either a junior or senior.
2. You must have been on the AHS cheer squad for the previous 2 years
3. The decision will be based upon tryout scores, teacher evaluations and sponsor evaluations.
4. Evaluations will consist of being rated on a scale of 1-4 (four being the best), and candidates will be rated on

- Responsibility
- Maturity
- Ability to handle pressure
- Ability to give and receive constructive criticism
- Listening skills
- Positive attitude
- Consideration of others
- Leadership skills
- School Spirit

XIV. CODE OF CONDUCT

Higher standards of conduct are expected of students representing AISD in extracurricular activities, which are considered a privilege. Students are asked to sign this contract agreeing to adhere to a

higher standard of conduct. This higher standard of conduct governs cheerleader behavior on and off campus, in uniform and out of uniform, beginning the day a student is announced as a cheerleader for the following year. Cheerleaders are expected to be positive role models, serving as high school ambassadors at school, in the district, and in the community. Cheerleaders can be suspended or dismissed from the cheer squad for failure to meet this expectation of a higher standard of conduct regardless of whether school discipline is applicable.

1. I promise to exemplify the AISD cheer organization at all times in and out of uniform by setting an example for all cheerleaders/students to follow and be proud of.
2. I promise to make cheerleading a priority and demonstrate just as much effort toward cheerleading as with any other extra-curricular activities.
3. I promise to be sportsmanlike and courteous at all times.
4. I promise to fulfill all responsibilities and duties assigned to me by my captain(s) and/or sponsor.
5. I promise to abide by every rule and regulation on the AISD Student Code of Conduct and AISD Cheerleader Handbook.
6. I promise to never be seen anywhere cursing, using obscenities, smoking, drinking or under the influence of alcoholic beverages, or to partake in or be under the influence of any drugs AT ANY TIME EVER.
7. I promise to never withhold any vital information from my sponsor(s).
8. I promise to uphold any promises of secrecy with my fellow cheerleaders as well as with my sponsor(s).
9. I promise to display mutual respect for all cheerleaders and sponsor(s).
10. I promise to always support my sponsor(s) decisions whether I agree with them or not. I understand that my sponsor(s) is the designated adult in charge of this organization.
11. I promise to always support my captain/squad leader.
12. I promise to never use my cell phone during team meetings or practices.
13. I promise to be loyal to my sponsor(s), my captain/squad leader, and all cheerleaders.
14. I promise to never speak poorly of the cheerleaders, or any single member of the cheer squad, my captain/squad leader, or my sponsor(s). This includes social networking sites and/or texting.
15. I understand that as a visible leader of the school/community, the expectations for me extend beyond the regular school day or regular school expectations. For example: scenes of

nudity/vulgarity, alcohol use, fighting, bullying (either face-to-face or by means of social media) will not be permitted.

16. I promise to **NEVER** post anything considered inappropriate that would bring dishonor or disgrace upon myself, the AISD cheer squad, AISD, or my family on the internet and/or social media. Furthermore, I promise to never place myself in a situation where an inappropriate photo can be posted by an outside party. If anything like this has already been posted, I will remove it immediately. Failure to comply will result in appropriate disciplinary actions.
17. I promise never to complain.
18. I promise to attend ALL activities and fundraisers held by the team. I understand my involvement in all activities is crucial.
19. I promise to be on my best behavior in all of my classes at school and be respectful to all teachers and school administrators.
20. I will be the best cheerleader I can be!

Avery FFA Chapter

FFA

The National FFA Organization is the largest youth organization in the United States. It was started in 1928 as an organization for agriculture students and was called the “Future Farmers of America.” Today it is called the “National FFA Organization” and provides much more than knowledge and skill needed in agriculture production. The primary mission of today’s FFA is “the development of premier leadership, personal growth, and career success.” Through the FFA, students have the opportunity to develop a supervised agriculture experience program, compete in various leadership and career development events, serve in various leadership roles, manage financial matters, assume civic and personal responsibilities as well as other skills that are useful in all careers. The Avery FFA was established in 1937 and has established itself as a perennial powerhouse within the FFA Organization. Students enrolled in agriculture classes are automatically active members of the National FFA Organization. Our Avery FFA Alumni Club pays each students District, Area and National dues, so students can enjoy the full benefits of the organization and participate in all activities available to FFA members.

FFA Member Participation

Every FFA member should take advantage of the variety of activities that the FFA has to offer. These activities happen at different times of the year and some require registration fees from the FFA members. Announcements of these camps and conferences will be made in class.

- *Chapter Meetings
- *Leadership Activities
- *Fundraisers
- *District meetings and Conventions
- *Area and State Conventions
- *LDE’s – District, Area and State
- *CDE’s – District, Area and State
- *Local FFA activities
- * Exhibiting Animals at Livestock Shows

We will recognize those members who have actively participated in the many activities offered. Sign in sheets will be at each activity held, please make sure you sign your name on the sheet to verify attendance at each event.

Meetings

Avery FFA will hold a meeting once a month during the school year. Meetings begin at 6pm and will be held in the Ag Building unless you are notified otherwise. Meetings are an important function of the FFA and all members are encouraged to attend as chapter business is voted upon and important information is passed out.

Leadership Development Events

Leadership Development Events (LDE's) are held during the fall semester of the year. These events help you develop public speaking and leadership skills. You must compete at the district level and place in the top three of your event to advance to area and state levels.

Career Development Events

There are many different Career Development Events (CDE's) that are held in the spring semester of the school year. You must place in the top 5 in that event at Area in order to advance and compete at the State contest.

Supervised Agriculture Experience Project Program

Do I have to raise an animal to be in Agriculture classes and/or the FFA? The answer is No! In fact, many of our most active members do not show projects. However, many students are interested in this phase of our program and it has consistently proven to build leadership and responsibility in those students participating.

The following is a guideline for the students considering a livestock project:

1. The program must have the approval of the parent and agriculture teacher.
2. The managerial decisions and project maintenance is the responsibility of the student.
3. Students should maintain complete and accurate records on each project in their SAE online record book.

4. Before selecting a project the student should consider the following:

- A. What type of project is best suited for my situation?
- B. Do I have the facilities or place to keep this project?
- C. Will I have the time to properly raise this project?
- D. Do I have the funds to purchase and raise this project?

The Avery Agriculture teacher will serve as advisor for SAE projects and will make a minimum of one on site visit per semester to view and assist FFA members with their projects. If FFA members are in need of further assistance with their projects, it is the responsibility of the FFA member to communicate that need with their FFA Advisor.

Official Dress

The uniform worn by the FFA members at local and State functions is called the official dress. It provides identity and a distinctive, recognizable image to the organization. Official Dress is outlined below:

Males

White Collared Shirt

FFA Tie

FFA Jacket zipped to the top

Black Pants or slacks

Plain Black Shoes or Boots

Black Socks

Black Belt

Female

White Collared Blouse

FFA Scarf

FFA Jacket zipped to the top

Black knee length skirt

Black Pantyhose

Plain Black closed-toe/heel shoes

CDE Dress for contest

*Collared shirt

*Nice Jeans that is free of fading or holes

*Closed Toe Shoes

FFA Jackets

FFA Jackets can be purchased for \$76.00. This will include your your jacket, a tie or scarf and shipping. All members are encouraged to purchase a FFA Jacket if they have plans of competing on LDE's or CDE's. All jacket orders will be placed by the Agriscience Instructor.

FFA Officers

As an FFA member, you have the opportunity to run for a chapter, district, area, state and national office. As an officer you are in a position of leadership, which will require time and energy.

Chapter Officer Elections are held in April each year. To declare yourself as an officer candidate, you must complete an officer application and turn it in to the Agriscience Instructor by the deadline. The officer candidates complete a four-part process as follows:

1. Application/Resume
2. Essay
3. Recite Opening/Closing Ceremony
4. Interview

Awards, Degrees, & Member Recognition

The Avery FFA Chapter has several opportunities for members to participate. Each spring, the Avery FFA hosts an Awards Banquet to recognize the achievements of FFA members. Members in grades 9th – 12th must have their AET record books up to date and complete an application by the deadline, which will be announced in the spring semester. The following awards will be awarded on the chapter level:

FFA Degrees – There are four degrees available to Avery FFA members. Each degree has certain criteria that must be met. Refer to the National FFA Manual for degree requirements.

Greenhand Degree – Given to 1st year FFA members.

Chapter Degree – Given to 2nd year FFA members.

State Degree – Given to 3rd year FFA members.

American Degree – Given to an FFA member the year after they have graduated High School.

Star Awards_ - Star awards are given to members who have been active throughout the year and maintained an excellent SAE program during the school year.

Proficiency Awards -To apply for proficiency awards at the chapter level you must complete the application that will be passed out in the spring semester. Proficiency awards are given to members that excel in various SAE areas.

Top Ten Award – The members with the most points base on activities and participation will be recognized at the Chapter Banquet in May.

Graduation Sashes – Students that have been enrolled all four years (8 semesters) and in good standing of the Avery FFA Chapter will receive a Yellow FFA Graduation Sash.

FFA Fundraising activities

The FFA provides many activities throughout the year that require money. The entry fees for contest, community service projects, the food and refreshments at meetings, and supplies for the banquet require large sums of money. You are asked to participate in whatever fundraising activity that we have. The more money that our group makes, the more activities we can provide to you. Join our fundraisers and take an active role in supporting your chapter.

Requirements to Participate in Livestock Shows

To be eligible to participate in any livestock show, students must abide by the following requirements:

- Be a bonafide FFA member in good standing of the Avery FFA Chapter.
- Exhibitors must adhere to due dates. These dates will include but may not be limited to tag orders and entry deadlines designated by the FFA Advisor. These dates will be prior to deadline dates posted by shows or organization handling validation material.
- Attend all mandatory livestock meetings for the specific livestock project.

- Be passing **ALL** subjects at the time that eligibility is determined. If a student is ineligible to show due to grades, the animal is ineligible to show as well.
- Have paid entry fees on time and meet show requirements.
- Livestock in poor condition due to disease, injury or neglect will not be allowed to participate in livestock shows. The final decision will rest with the supervising teacher.
- The agricultural science teacher will assist in making arrangements in any approved county and/or major livestock shows. Entries in all other shows will be the responsibility of the student.
- The agricultural science teacher will coordinate all transportation, accommodations and hauling of projects to and from shows.
- At least one parent or guardian is needed to assist in chaperoning the group for all livestock shows.
- It is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor to be familiar with all rules pertaining to his/her livestock project.
- While at livestock shows, each student will be responsible for all feeding, care and grooming of his/her respective animal.
- Livestock shows are an extension of the Avery ISD Classroom; therefore students will be responsible for their personal conduct. **All school rules are in effect at these shows.**

ONE-ACT PLAY

Avery ISDs Theatre Program is recognized as a preeminent performing ensemble. Avery's Theatre Program's Goal is to provide quality educational theatre where students learn advanced acting techniques staging, aspects of technical theatre and theatre etiquette. Our Goal is that when students leave our program they will have the skills necessary to accomplish any career goals they have in their future.

Responsibilities of Avery Theatre Students

As a member of the Avery Theatre group I will:

- Promote and live by high moral standards
- Always apply the "TEAM" concept to the organization.
- Act respectful at all Avery High School Functions.
- Encourage and support interest in sports, fine arts, and other activities of our school.

Attendance

- All members must be present and on time for all practices, performances, and all other activities of the organization.
- ALL absences must be approved by the Director at least 1 day in advance.
- The director must be notified at least 3 days in advance of any absence due to an appointment or family event. (Members must bring a note from the doctor and/or parent/guardian.)
- Students who are involved in another school-sponsored activity must share time and notify the sponsor in advance of their conflict. Refer to the AISD Extracurricular Handbook for order of participation. (Extracurricular Conflicts With Other Activities).
- Students must attend any and all technical rehearsal. Exception to this must be discussed with the Director and Principal at least 3 days before the technical rehearsal. You will not be able to perform if you miss any Technical rehearsal.
- The director has the option of allowing members to perform who have excused absences.

If a student has 2 unexcused absences or is late to rehearsal 3 times. The student will be put on performance and practice probation.

Probation means: 1st offence: A student will be removed from their part for one week. This means they will come to rehearsal but not perform. If probation occurs during a performance the Director will decide if the student will perform.

2nd offence: Student will be removed from their part for two weeks. This means they will come to rehearsal but not perform. If a performance occurs during the two week time period students will not perform.

3rd offence: removal from the One Act Play company.

What is excused?

- Medical Doctor appointment
- Family Death
- Immediate family Weddings
- Illness that is verified by a medical excuse
- Injury with a medical excuse and/or trainer's excuse
- UIL school activities
- Any other approved absence by your Director

OAP Standards of Conduct

One Act Play members may incur disciplinary consequences for behavior that does not constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, and also incur disciplinary consequences from both the appropriate administrator and his or her coach for conduct that does constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

One Act Play members must comply with all standards of conduct outlined below, in addition to the standards of conduct and behavior outlined in the Mt. Vernon ISD Student Code of Conduct and other portions of this handbook. One Act Play members will be subject to the standards of conduct outlined herein at all times, regardless of when or where the conduct occurs, whether on or off school property. Failure to comply with the standards of conduct may result in disciplinary action against the One Act Play member, up to and including removal from the company

- One Act Play members shall not engage in inappropriate behavior, including, but not limited to, inappropriate sexual conduct, fighting, public intoxication, possession or consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs, or other criminal activity.
- One Act Play members shall not engage in behavior that warrants suspension from school, removal to DAEP, or expulsion from school.

Rules

- One Act Play members must abide by all school rules and regulations and all rules set forth in these guidelines.
- If a student fails a six weeks they must regain eligibility at the 3 week grading period immediately following in order to secure their spot on the team. If the student regains eligibility and fails a different six weeks they may be removed from the team.
 - If a student is failing during a performance the student can not perform.
 - Students must attend rehearsal if failing. However, it is the discretion of the Director whether or not the student will maintain their part in the play.
- One Act Play members will conduct themselves in a manner that promotes respect, sportsmanship, and leadership at all times.
- One Act Play members will follow the instructions of the director or they will be subject to the appropriate probation or removal from the company.
- All One Act Play members will ride as a group in a school vehicle to and from all competitions unless waived by the Director and the principal. In such cases, a signed

- permission slip is to be given to the Director prior to the One Act Play member leaving.
- OAP Members will not make disparaging remarks in any manner, including social media, about a fellow member, Director, or Avery High School or competing school.
 - Company members (especially actors) may not make drastic changes to their appearance (hair cut/color) without consulting with the director.

Dismissal/Removal: OAP Members may be dismissed from the squad for the following reasons:

- OAP Members transfers to another school
- If a student fails a six weeks they must regain eligibility at the 3 week grading period immediately following in order to secure their spot on the team. If the student regains eligibility and fails a different six weeks shall be subject to removal from the team.
- Persistent misbehavior that results in multiple DAEP placements.
- A student is charged with possession, consumption or fails a drug test provided by the school.
- Other behavior which the coach deems inappropriate, including but not limited to, unsportsmanlike conduct, insubordination, or lewd or profane behavior.

Travel to Competitions: The AISD Student Code of Conduct and Board policy is in force during all competitions, whether school is in session or not. Any violations of the Student Code of Conduct or applicable laws shall result in disciplinary action as described in the Student Code of Conduct and Student Handbook.

ALCOHOL/DRUGS: The use of illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol at any time is prohibited. Violations will be handled according to the Student Code of Conduct and Board policy.

HOTEL ROOMS: Mixed gender groups may not visit in hotel rooms. The sponsor will delegate a community place for students to visit. This will typically be a hotel lobby. Students must be in their own rooms at the designated curfew time.

Any student's actions may result in sponsor or principal review, which may constitute dismissal from the squad.

VASE/Avery Art Club **Visual Arts Scholastic Event**

Mission

The mission of the TAEA Visual Arts Scholastic Event is to recognize exemplary student achievement in the Visual Arts by providing art students and programs a standard of excellence in which to achieve. The purpose of the Avery Art Club is to foster and support VASE participants and the growth of the art program at Avery. All students planning to participate in VASE for the upcoming year are considered to be members of the club. In addition, membership is open to anyone interested in supporting the visual arts. To become a member, applicants need to sign up with the sponsor and attend meetings.

Attendance

- VASE students are required to attend two monthly afterschool VASE work sessions commencing at the determination of the sponsor (usually in September). This time will be used for discussion, brainstorming and peer review of your ongoing work.
- Absences, except for sudden illnesses, should be approved by the instructor at least one day in advance.
- Students involved in another school-sponsored activity must share time and notify the sponsor in advance of their conflict. Refer to the AISD Extracurricular Handbook for order of participation. (Extracurricular Conflicts with Other Activities).

Standards of Conduct

Vase and Art Club members may incur disciplinary consequences for behavior that does not constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, and also incur disciplinary consequences from both the appropriate administrator and his or her sponsor for conduct that does constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Vase and Art Club members must comply with all standards of conduct outlined below, in addition to the standards of conduct and behavior outlined in the Avery ISD Student Code of Conduct and other portions of this handbook. Members will be subject to the standards of conduct outlined herein at all times, regardless of when or where the conduct occurs, whether on or off school property, and whether or not school is in session. Failure to comply with the standards of conduct may result in disciplinary action against the member, up to and including removal from VASE and the Art Club.

- Members shall not engage in inappropriate behavior, including, but not limited to, inappropriate sexual conduct, fighting, public intoxication, possession or consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs, or other criminal activity.
- Members shall not engage in behavior that warrants suspension from school, removal to DAEP, or expulsion from school.

Rules

- VASE and Art Club members must abide by all school rules and regulations and all rules set forth in the extracurricular handbook.
- Artwork requirements are available from the TAEA website. Copies will be distributed to members by the sponsor before actual work begins.
 - Students may enter up to two art pieces. Once entries are paid, students are responsible for reimbursement of the entry fee(s) if they do not attend the event.
- There is only one VASE meet (in February) followed by a state meet in May for pieces that advance. Members must maintain UIL academic eligibility to compete.
 - All participating students must be academically eligible on the day of the VASE event, in accordance with the TEA UIL Side by Side Academic Requirements (No Pass/No Play) TEC 33.08C. A student need not be enrolled in an art class to have his/her work considered for submission, but must be supervised and sponsored by a TAEA member teacher or administrator. Participating students must be enrolled in the sponsoring school for 30 calendar days prior to the Regional Event. Artwork entered in a Regional Event and advancing to State will automatically be entered in the State Event and is subject to rules, procedures and fees that apply at the State Event.
- Members will conduct themselves in a manner that promotes respect, sportsmanship, and leadership at all times.
- Members will follow the instructions of the sponsor or they will be subject to the appropriate probation or removal from the membership and event.
- All members attending the event will ride as a group in a school vehicle to and from the event(s) unless waived by the sponsor and the principal. In such cases, a signed permission slip is to be given to the sponsor prior to the event.
- Members will not make disparaging remarks in any manner, including social media, about a fellow member, sponsor, or Avery High School or competing schools.

Dismissal/Removal

VASE and Art Club members may be dismissed from membership for the following reasons:

- The student transfers to another school
- All participating students must be academically eligible on the day of the VASE event, in

accordance with the TEA UIL Side by Side Academic Requirements (No Pass/No Play) TEC 33.08C.

- Persistent misbehaviors that result in multiple DAEP placements.
- Other behavior which the sponsor deems inappropriate, including but not limited to, unsportsmanlike conduct, insubordination, or lewd or profane behavior.

Junior and Senior Beta

Mission

The purpose of The National Beta Club shall be to promote the ideals of character, service, and leadership among elementary and secondary school students, to reward meritorious academic achievement and to encourage and assist students in continuing their education after high school.

Eligibility

Students must be enrolled in Avery ISD for one full semester before they can be eligible for The National Beta Club. Students must maintain a 90 GPA (honor/college courses will be weighted) each semester and be performing at or above grade level. Students must also be on track to obtain a minimum diploma. Junior Beta Club will consist of grades 6th-8th and Senior Beta Club will consist of grades 9th -12th.

Cheating Policy

Academic dishonesty is frowned upon in Beta Club because we are an honor society based primarily upon grades. The first offense of academic dishonesty will result in removal from local Beta activities for two full nine weeks. The second offense will result in permanent removal from local and national Beta. All instances of academic dishonesty in the classroom must be reported to the principal in concurrence with Avery ISD discipline procedures. The principal will have a list of current Beta members and will make the sponsors aware if an instance occurs.

Dues

A one-time fee of \$25 is due before induction (\$15 to join The National Beta Club and local dues of \$10). Each year thereafter the \$10 local dues will be assessed to remain active. Students who do not pay dues will be removed from Beta Club.

Duties/Services

Beta is a service organization. Therefore, students must be willing to serve in the community and our campus. Students must maintain at least 75% participation each semester to remain an active member. Participation will be rewarded from various activities throughout the school year.

Convention/Off Campus Trips

Students who do not maintain at least 75% participation will not be eligible to attend the State Beta Convention or any off campus activity/trip.

Probation/Removal

Beta Club is an extracurricular activity. Therefore, each member has to participate in drug testing. A failed drug test will result in probation for the following semester. Failure to meet the grade requirement will also result in probation for the following semester. A student may be placed on probation twice (academic/discipline/service) as a beta member. If a student receives a third

probation, the student will be permanently removed from Beta Club. Students placed in DAEP/Expulsion will be automatically removed from Beta Club. Any student that leaves Avery ISD will have their membership transferred or removed from Beta Club.

Officers

In September of each year a president, vice president, secretary, and reporter will be elected by the members whose dues are current. President and Vice President must be members in good standing (no probations) for a minimum of 2 years prior to election. The Secretary and Reporter must be members in good standing (no probations) for a minimum of one year prior to election. The President will be responsible for managing meetings and will be required to sign for monies being spent. The Vice President will fill in for the president as needed. Secretary will keep minutes of all meetings. The reporter will help keep records of meetings and assist with publicity.

Activity Accounts

On occasion the Beta Club will have fundraisers to support activities. Student fundraising money will be used for student use or other activities as voted on by active members. The president, in addition to one of the sponsors, must sign for all money spent.

Local Beta Clubs will also follow the National Beta Bylaws

2020-2021 Extracurricular Handbook Acknowledgment Form

Student(s) and Parent/Guardian:

Participation in any extracurricular activity is not a right but a privilege. Any student who wishes to take advantage of the opportunity to participate in extracurricular programs and activities must make an earnest effort to abide by the rules and expectations outlined in the Extracurricular Handbook.

The 2020-2021 Extracurricular Handbook is available online at www.averyisd.net. If you would like a hard copy, please contact the principal's office at (903) 684-3431 to either pick one up or request that a copy be sent home with your student. Copies may also be requested from the appropriate coach, director or sponsor.

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the guidelines in the Extracurricular Handbook set forth by the Avery ISD Administration.

Please sign and date this form and return it to the appropriate coach/sponsor. Please keep the second copy for your personal records.

Students return this signature page to the appropriate coach, director or sponsor before participating in any Avery ISD Extracurricular Program.

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

Received By:

Date:

Avery ISD Mandatory Drug Testing Program

Extracurricular Activities and Driving/Parking on Campus

Avery ISD requires drug testing of any student in grades 7–12 who chooses to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities or requests a permit to park a vehicle on school property. A student participating in these activities or requesting a parking permit shall be randomly tested throughout the school year. Students covered under the Mandatory Drug Testing Program include all students participating in school-sponsored extracurricular activities (UIL and non UIL), clubs, and any student driving on campus or requesting a parking permit. Random tests shall be conducted on as many as six dates throughout the school year.

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit, the student shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities or to receive a parking permit.

I, _____, agree to be subject to the rules and procedures of the Mandatory Drug Testing Program for extracurricular activities and driving/parking on campus at AISD. I have read and understand the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program including consequences for positive tests.

Please complete the information below and sign and return to the student's coach, director or sponsor.

Student's Printed Name:

Student's Age: _____

Student's Date of Birth:

Student Signature:

Parent Signature:

PERMISSION FORM

Event: _____

Date: _____

Coach or Sponsor: _____

Driver: _____

Vehicle: _____

Destination: _____

Departure time from Avery ISD: _____

Estimated arrival in Avery ISD: _____

Student's Name: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature: _____

By my afore-fixed signature, I confirm my permission for my child to make the trip described above.

My signature also confirms that I release Avery ISD and the driver and sponsor or coach from the responsibility or liability in case of accident or illness.

My signature also confirms my permission for the sponsor or coach to seek medical help for my child in case of accident or illness if I, or someone designated by me cannot be reached in case of an emergency situation.

I am providing the following information for contacting me in case of an emergency.

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Person to contact if I can't be reached: _____

Phone number: _____

My signature also affirms that I will be responsible for my child's transportation back home if he/she violates behavior expectations as set forth in the AISD and AISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct and Board policy.

RESOURCES

For more information visit Avery ISD:
www.averyisd.net

For Game Schedules and Scores visit:
Sports section [of www.averyisd.net](http://www.averyisd.net)

For information regarding the University Interscholastic League visit: www.uiltexas.org

SCHOOL BOARD POLICY STATEMENT

The rules and regulations in this handbook are subject to the amendment and approval of the Avery ISD School Board and Superintendent and are published in accordance with the rules and regulations of the University Interscholastic League (UIL).

