Andes Central/Dakota Christian
Thunder

ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK
FOR STUDENTS

2026-2027

Andes Central Board Approval: May 11, 2026

Dakota Christian Board Approval: May 11, 2026

CO-CURRICULAR/EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Basketball

Cheerleading

Competitive Cheer and Dance

Cross Country

Football

Golf

Track

Volleyball

Wrestling

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Andes Central High School
(605) 487-7671

Dakota Christian School
(605) 243-2211

Title IX Coordinator: Darren DeNeui, 1001 High St., Lake Andes, SD 57356 (605) 487.7671

Table of Contents

Introduction **4**
Elastic Clause **4**
General Program Procedures **4**
Seasons **4**
Philosophy **4**
Varsity 5
Junior Varsity 5
C-Team 5
Conduct **6**
Practice **6**
Sunday Activities 6
Wednesday Night - Church Night 7
Inclement Weather 7
Open Gym and Weight Room Usage **7**
Clothing and Equipment **7**
Participation in More than One Activity at One Time **7**
Transportation **7**
Student Transportation 7
Travel Procedures 7
Activities Training Rules **8**
General Guidelines **8**
Physicals 8
Attendance 9
Suspensions 9
Drug Screening 9
Concussions 9
In Season Scholastic Eligibility 9
Training Rule Violation Procedures, Offences, and Consequences **9**
Sexual Harassment **10**
Lettering **18**
Cheerleading: 18
Competitive Cheer and Dance: 18
Cross Country: 18
Football: 19
Volleyball: 19
Basketball: 19
Wrestling: 19
Golf: 19
Track: 19
Student Managers/Statisticians: 19
Award Night and Recognitions **19**
Additional Information **19**
Chain of Command **19**
Parent Meeting **20**
APPENDICES **21**
SDHSAA Eligibility for Athletic Participation **21**
SDCL 13-32-9 Suspension from Extracurricular Activities for Controlled Substance Violations **22**

Introduction

One of the primary purposes for interscholastic activities in the school curricula is to prepare young adolescents for the challenges of adult life. Students are being short-changed if all they take from the interscholastic programs are the skills related to playing the sport or activity. We must offer the student things that will last them a lifetime and help them to be a better person and better equipped to deal with the challenges of life. If it's done right, participation in activities, win or lose, can become one of the most powerful and influential educational experiences that can occur in young adults.

A good activities program will make a concerted effort to teach:

1. Good sportsmanship
2. The importance of persistence and perseverance
3. A commitment to excellence
4. The want and desire to be the best you can be at every pursuit
5. How to achieve and commit to a goal
6. Pride, devotion, dedication, honesty, trustworthiness and self-discipline
7. Respect for those in authority
8. The ability to work and care for others in a team setting
9. Respect for rules and regulations
10. Stick-to-itiveness in developing a strong work ethic

Elastic Clause

The Activities Handbook does not include everything that may possibly happen during the school year. If any situation not specifically covered should arise, the administration will make every effort to act fairly and quickly. The best interest of the student, school, and community will be considered. Each situation is different and will be handled on an individual basis. It is sincerely hoped that each student will have a successful and enjoyable school year. Take the time to know the rules and regulations you are expected to follow and many of the little problems can be avoided.

General Program Procedures

Seasons

The Athletic Director will implement a schedule as accurately as possible. The schedule will follow the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) guidelines found at http://www.sdhsaa.com/.

Philosophy

The following describes the AC/DC Cooperative's philosophy at the various levels of athletic programs.

Varsity	Select Squads Highly Skilled

	Highly Competitive
Junior Varsity	Higher Level of Competition Prepare for the Varsity Level May Involve Some Screening
C-Team	Maintain Large Roster Provide Fair Playing Time Stress Fundamentals

Varsity

Since activities are developmentally beneficial, coaches are encouraged to involve as many students as possible in the activities program in some manner. In short, a balance must be found between maximizing opportunities and diluting the efficiency and quality of a program. At the high school level, students tend to become more selective in their choices as they begin to identify their interests and talents, and become more adept at comparing their skills with those of their peer group. In spite of increased specialization, coaches in certain activities may be involved in the unpleasant task of making selections (cutting). Every program below the varsity level, however, is developmental, and as many participants as possible should be retained.

Junior Varsity

Junior varsity squads include cross-country, football, volleyball, wrestling, girls/boys basketball, and golf. The JV athletic philosophy is to develop players for the varsity level of competition. However, this does not mean that playing time will be equal or that every player will play in every game.

C-Team

C-Team participants will have separate schedules if participant numbers allow. This will assure each participant some playing time. However, this does not mean that playing time will be equal.

It is the desire of the AC/DC Cooperative to have appropriate team programs for the appropriate age. However, the districts acknowledge that it is not uncommon to have a young athlete with the physical talent and maturity to be elevated to high school level competition.

It is the intent of this policy to allow that rare instance where a gifted athlete may be given the opportunity to participate in a high school sports program.

The AC/DC coaching staff will use the following procedure for movement purposes when programs are offered at both seventh and eighth and high school levels. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director to oversee the following procedures:

1. After consultation of the respective coaches, a decision to recommend an athlete to be moved to high school level competition.
2. The decision will be based on the athlete's skill level development, maturity, and his/her attitude.
3. The athlete is then informed of the recommendation and his/her approval must be given to the head coach(es) of that sport.
4. Parents/guardians are then informed of the decision, and written approval must be given to the head coach(es).
5. If all parties agree (head coach(es), parents/guardians, athlete, and principals), the athlete will be added to the eligibility roster in the high school.

Eligibility factors: The following factors must be adhered to regarding advancing an athlete to high school level of competition.

1. Students advanced to high school level competition must meet the high school eligibility standards.
2. The athlete must have on file in the high school office, a current physical examination. A pre-participation Interval Health History report must also be completed.
3. Participation in high school athletics as a 7th or 8th grade student in NO WAY AFFECTS THE STUDENT'S ELIGIBILITY WHEN HE/SHE ENTERS HIGH SCHOOL. The student will still have four (4) first semesters and four (4) second semesters of high school eligibility.
4. Granting 7th and 8th grade student letters and other awards for high school competition also has no bearing on future eligibility.

Conduct

All participants in any extracurricular activity will be held to the following procedures regarding conduct while attending an activity as a representative of the AC/DC Cooperative.

Participants and coaches are expected to adhere to responsible standards of behavior and conduct themselves in a socially acceptable manner. Participants and coaches will:

1. be fully responsible for one's own actions and the consequences of such;
2. respect the rights and beliefs of others;
3. treat others with courtesy and consideration;
4. respect and obey the rules of the school and laws of the community; and
5. conduct themselves in a manner befitting role models.

These standards of behavior and general proper decorum apply to the use of all technology, social media, networking, and any form of communication as well. All contact and messages by coaches with team members shall be sent to all team members, except for messages concerning medical or academic privacy.

Practice

All sports will follow SDHSAA requirements as to the minimum practices required before the first contest. Students who miss a significant number of practices, such as illness or ineligibility will be evaluated by their coach as to fitness before participation in a game in order to insure their safety. Students must be out for the sport by the third practice.

Practice is extremely valuable. Coaches are encouraged to work together with the Athletic Director in setting up equal use of the facilities. Coaches need to have their full attention on team members while at practice, and therefore no one except team members should be in the practice area. Coaches have the responsibilities to the safety of team members. The coach should be the last to leave, making sure equipment is cared for, lights are off, and doors are locked. No coach should ever leave unless all students have been accounted for and have left the facility.

All practices will be a maximum of no more than two (2) hours. The head coach is responsible for making decisions regarding his/her team. This includes making up practice times whether excused or unexcused.

Sunday Activities

There will be no school-related activities or practices held on Sundays.

Wednesday Night - Church Night

Wednesday night is designated as church night. Practices will end no later than 5:45 PM. There are a few state-controlled activities held on Wednesday night over which we have no control and must ask the cooperation of all involved.

Inclement Weather

When school is dismissed due to inclement weather, practices may only be held with administrative approval. At all times, the safety of the participants should be the primary concern. If a practice is needed, the practice will be voluntary, not mandatory.

Open Gym and Weight Room Usage

Each school will retain its own policies and procedures regarding gym/weight room usage.

Clothing and Equipment

Students receiving articles of clothing/equipment to be worn/used during activities are responsible for those items, and are expected to take proper care of them. Coaches issuing these items will be responsible to check them in at the end of that activity. Missing or damaged items will be charged to that individual responsible. No student shall be permitted to participate in another sport until all equipment checked out to him/her is returned or paid for. This will carry over from year-to-year. An activity clothing contract will outline replacement costs and will be reviewed and approved prior to checkout.

Participation in More than One Activity at One Time

If a student participates in more than one sport in the same season, each sports' required practice times must be maintained. If required standards cannot be maintained, the athlete will need to choose which activity he/she will participate in. It is the responsibility of the coaches to submit verification that an athlete is able to meet this requirement to the Athletic Director by the end of first week of the season.

Transportation

Student Transportation

Students are to ride to/from an event (practice, contest, etc.) in school vehicles. Any exceptions to this need to be preapproved through administrative channels.

The School Districts will be responsible for transporting students, participants, coaches, managers, statisticians and Board of Education recognized volunteer assistants that are recognized by the school board to and from athletic and activity events.

Travel Procedures

This guide has been compiled so that all know the procedures that are to be followed:

1. The Athletic Director will work with the bus drivers to establish times for activities. If changes are made regarding leave times, the coaches are to contact the bus drivers with the adjustments.
2. The coach is in charge of all matters pertaining to students, destination, times and rest stops.
3. The coach is responsible for discipline on the bus. Students must keep the noise level low enough so that the bus driver is not distracted. Only technology devices with headphones will be allowed to be used during a bus trip.

4. The bus driver is the final authority on matters related to speed, load, safety, and driving conditions.
5. Eating and drinking on a moving bus is not desired. Students are to use the garbage containers that are available in the bus. Coaches will check to make sure the bus or other school vehicles are clean before allowing students to leave.
6. Students will know when and where the bus will be leaving from and returning to after the trip. Also, students will know the approximate time they are expected to return home in case parents need to pick them up after the trip has ended.
7. Students and coaches must be on the bus ready to depart for home within 30 minutes of the last game concluding.
8. Coaches are responsible for the students conduct the entire trip, not just on the bus. Supervision will therefore be maintained at all times.
9. Students who travel with their respective activity groups are expected to return with their group. Written documentation from parents/guardians is needed if a student will not be returning with the team. (The coach will have a sign-out sheet that will serve as the permission slip.) The student(s) may only be released to the parent/guardian or school designated driver. Only parents/guardians may sign out their child.
10. Parents are responsible to pick up their child after each event/activity. Coaches will not be expected to give students a ride home.
11. Any problems that arise on a trip should be reported to the athletic director or principal as soon as possible.
12. Everyone is responsible for promoting the AC/DC Activities Program on out of town trips.

Activities Training Rules

Training rules are in effect from the first practice until the activity's season is completed.

In order to assure a high quality of student activity performance, the AC/DC Cooperative has developed the following guidelines for those young people who wish to participate in school sponsored athletic activities. The purpose of these guidelines is to:

1. Encourage proper school conduct at home and away from school.
2. To help young people to develop a positive attitude and to teach self-discipline.
3. Encourage young people to work as a unit and develop pride toward their activity and school.
4. To confirm and support existing state laws which restrict the use of mood-altering chemicals.
5. To assist students who desire to resist peer pressure.
6. To emphasize the schools concerns for the health of students in areas of safety while participating in activities and the long-term physical and emotional effects of chemical use on their health.

General Guidelines

The enforcement of these rules and regulations are the responsibility of the head coach, athletic director and principal.

Physicals

The AC/DC Cooperative will follow the criteria established by the SDHSAA regarding utilization of physical forms for two years. However, no athlete is prohibited from obtaining an annual physical if they so choose.

Attendance

A student must be in school the entire day of, as well as the day after an event in order to be eligible to participate in the next scheduled activity.

The principal may grant an exception to the activities attendance policy (i.e. for emergencies) on an individual basis. These procedures are in effect for the length of each sporting season. All requests for this consideration should be made at least one day prior to the scheduled activity. If a student is absent due to a medical appointment, a doctor's statement is required to be submitted.

Suspensions

Students who are suspended (in school or out of school) from school are also suspended from attendance or participation in all school activities until the day following the end of the suspension. A student who has been suspended from a team for a training rule violation will be allowed to practice but not compete during the duration of the suspension. This student will not be allowed to leave school early to travel with the team.

Drug Screening

While participating in any interscholastic programs, participants may be subjected to random drug screening according to respective district policies.

Concussions

The AC/DC Cooperative will utilize the SDHSAA guide relating to evaluation of student athletes prior to returning to practice or competition following a head injury.

In Season Scholastic Eligibility

Each district will abide by its respective eligibility requirements.

Training Rule Violation Procedures, Offences, and Consequences

The following is a list of practices not condoned by the school or coaching staff. A student involved in athletics that chooses to participate in such practices will be subject to disciplinary action from the program in which they are involved. A district staff member, legal authorities, the individual's voluntary admission, or a responsible adult who is willing to go on record must substantiate the report of a violation. All students will be afforded the due process rights of any disciplinary action.

In the event it becomes necessary to suspend an athlete for a violation of one of the training rules, coaches should take the following steps:

1. Notify the principal and athletic director.
2. Advise the athlete of the violation.
3. Allow the athlete to explain his/her position.
4. Notify the parents or legal guardian of the violation and provide a parent conference, which may include coaches, athletic director, principal, superintendent, and athlete (if requested by the parent).
5. Please be advised that a coach does not have the authority to suspend any student long-term concerning extracurricular activities. All suspensions, including long-term and short term, must be approved by administration.

Level 1	
Offenses	**Consequences**
• Violation of team rules, policies, regulations • Unsportsmanlike conduct (practice, sidelines, contests, anytime representing school) • Unexcused absence (practice/games) • Absence either on the day of an event or the day following the contest/event • Initiation/hazing • Insubordination • Improper use of social media	Sit out one (1) contest/event for each offense
Level 2	
Offenses	**Consequences**
• Use or possession of tobacco products • Use, possession of, dispensing of, being under the influence of illegal drugs or chemicals including alcohol • Vandalism, theft, destruction of property or any felony or misdemeanor other than traffic violation	Refer to each school's policy

Sexual Harassment

I. Policy Statement

The District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that it operates, including admission and employment. The District is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the regulations promulgated through the U.S. Department of Education not to discriminate in such a manner. Inquiries about the application of Title IX to the District may be referred to the District's Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the Department of Education, or both. *(34 CFR § 106(b)(1))*

The District is committed to a school environment which is free from sexual harassment and conducive to all students' educational opportunities. Sexual harassment can inhibit a student's educational opportunities and an employee's work. Sexual harassment of students attending school in the District or students from other schools who are at a District activity, and sexual harassment of school employees, school volunteers, parents, guests, visitors and vendors of the District shall also not be tolerated and is strictly prohibited.

All students, school employees, school volunteers, parents, guests, visitors and vendors shall conduct themselves in a civil and responsible manner and in a manner consistent with school policies. This policy prohibiting sexual harassment shall apply to all students, school employees, school volunteers, parents, guests, visitors and vendors while on school property, while attending or participating in school activities, on school-owned property or on non-school property, while in any school-owned or leased vehicle, while at a school bus stop, or when in a private vehicle located on school property during school or during school activities.

Federal law (34 CFR § 106.30) defines "sexual harassment" as conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following: *(34 CFR § 106.30)*

1. An employee of the recipient conditioning the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the recipient on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
2. Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient's education program or activity; or

3. ‘‘Sexual assault’’ as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v), ‘‘dating violence’’ as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10), ‘‘domestic violence’’ as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8), or ‘‘stalking’’ as defined in 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30).

Any person may report sexual harassment (whether or not the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment), in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person’s verbal or written report. Such a report may be made at any time (including during non-business hours) by using the telephone number or electronic mail address, or by mail to the office address, listed for the Title IX Coordinator. *(34 CFR § 106.8(a))*

Any student who believes that he or she has been or is being subjected to sexual harassment or has reason to suspect another person has been or is being subjected to sexual harassment may also report it to a teacher, guidance counselor, or school administrator. The report may be made verbally or in writing.

The District’s response shall treat complainants and respondents equitably by offering supportive measures to a complainant, and by following a grievance process that complies with Title IX requirements before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures against a respondent. *(34 CFR § 106.44(a))*

II. Designation of Title IX Coordinator

The Board has designated the following District employee to coordinate its efforts to comply with its responsibilities as set forth in 34 CFR Part 106, who shall be referred to as the ‘‘Title IX Coordinator.’’ *(34 CFR § 106.8(a))*

Mr. Darren DeNeui
1001 High St., Lake Andes, SD 57356 (605)487.7671

The District shall notify applicants for employment, students, parents or legal guardians of elementary and secondary school students, employees, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the District, of the name or title, office address, electronic mail address, and telephone number of the employee or employees designated as the Title IX Coordinator. *(34 CFR § 106.8(a))*

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures. *(34 CFR § 106.30(a))*

III. Dissemination of Policy

The District shall notify persons entitled to the notification under Section I above that the District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program or activity that it operates, and that it is required by Title IX and this policy not to discriminate in such a manner. Such notification must state that the requirement not to discriminate in the education program or activity extends to admission and employment, and that inquiries about the application of Title IX to the District may be referred to the District’s Title IX Coordinator, to the U.S. Assistant Secretary of Education, or both.

The District shall prominently display the contact information required to be listed for the Title IX Coordinator on its website, and in each handbook or catalog that it makes available to persons entitled to a notification pursuant to Section I above. *(34 CFR § 106.8(b))*

IV. Adoption of Grievance Procedures

The District has adopted and published grievance procedures (ACAA-R(1), Sexual Harassment – Regulations) that provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints alleging any action that would be prohibited by Title IX and this policy. The District shall provide to persons entitled to a notification under Section I above notice of the District’s grievance procedures and grievance process, including how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to report or file a formal complaint of sexual harassment, and how the District will respond. *(34 CFR § 106.8(c))*

V. Definitions *(34 CFR § 106.30(a), except when otherwise indicated)*

a. "Actual knowledge" means notice of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment to the District's Title IX Coordinator or any official of the District who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the District, or to any employee of an elementary and secondary school. Imputation of knowledge based solely on vicarious liability (when a person has a particular legal relationship to the person who acted negligently) or constructive notice (deeming notice of something to a person having been given, even though actual notice did not exist) is insufficient to constitute actual knowledge. This standard is not met when the only official of the recipient with actual knowledge is the respondent. The mere ability or obligation to report sexual harassment or to inform a student about how to report sexual harassment, or having been trained to do so, does not qualify an individual as one who has authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of the District.

b. "Complainant" means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

c. ''Dating violence'' means violence committed by a person:
   1. who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and
   2. where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
   1.
      i. the length of the relationship.
      ii. the type of relationship.
      iii. the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. *(34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(10))*

d. "Decision-maker" means the school administrator who has primary responsibility and authority related to students, staff and attendance center where the alleged sexual harassment occurred, unless otherwise designated by the Board, and who has the authority to make a determination on the complaint as to responsibility of the respondent. *(ASBSD sample definition)*

e. ''Domestic violence'' includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction. *(34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(8))*

f. ''Education program or activity'' includes locations, events, or circumstances over which the District exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs. *(34 CFR § 106.44(a))*

g. "Formal complaint" means a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting that the District investigate the allegation of sexual harassment. At the time of filing a formal complaint, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the District. A formal complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, or by electronic mail, by using the contact information required to be listed for the Title IX Coordinator, and by any additional method designated by the District.

h. ''Document filed by a complainant'' means a document or electronic submission (such as by electronic mail or through an online portal provided for this purpose by the District) that contains the complainant's physical or digital signature, or otherwise indicates that the complainant is the person filing the formal complaint. Should the Title IX Coordinator sign the formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator is not a complainant or otherwise a party, and the Title IX Coordinator must comply with the Title IX requirements.

i. ''Notice'' includes, but is not limited to, a report of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator.

j. "Respondent" means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

k. ''Sexual assault'' means any nonconsensual sexual act proscribed by Federal, Tribal, or State law, including when the victim lacks capacity to consent. *(20 U.S.C. 1092(f)(6)(A)(v))*

l. ''Stalking'' means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:
   1. fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or

2. suffer substantial emotional distress. *(34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(30))*

m. "Supportive measures" means nondisciplinary, non-punitive individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed. Such measures are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the District's educational environment, or deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may include counseling, extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, modifications of work or class schedules, escorting the complainant while on District property or while a District off-campus activity, mutual restrictions on contact between the parties, changes in work or housing locations, leaves of absence, increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus, and other similar measures.

VI. District's Response to Sexual Harassment *(34 CFR § 106.44)*

A. General response to sexual harassment. Regardless of whether or not a formal complaint is filed, should the District have actual knowledge of sexual harassment in a District educational program or activity against another person in the United States, the District shall respond promptly in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent (i.e., if the District's response to sexual harassment is clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances).

The Title IX Coordinator shall promptly contact the complainant to discuss the availability of supportive measures, consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures, inform the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint, and explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint.

B. Response to a formal complaint. In response to a formal complaint, the District shall follow the grievance process as set forth in ACAA-R(1), Sexual Harassment – Regulations.

C. Time frames. The timeframes set forth in the regulations shall be considered as a maximum length of time within which the related step is to be completed, however, the time frames may be extended for good cause upon written notice to the complainant and the respondent of the delay or extension and the reasons for the action. Good cause includes, but is not limited to, utilization of the informal resolution process, availability of an investigator if not a school employee, complexity of the investigation, absence of a party, a party's advisor, a witness, or decision-maker (including a person necessary for addressing an appeal), concurrent law enforcement activity, or the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities.

D. Emergency removal. Nothing in Title IX regulations or this policy prohibits the District from removing a respondent from the District's education program or activity on an emergency basis, provided that the District undertakes an individualized safety and risk analysis, determines that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of sexual harassment justifies removal, and provides the respondent with notice and an opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the removal, however, nothing in Title IX regulations or this policy may be construed to modify any rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or the Americans with Disabilities Act. Additionally, nothing in the Title IX regulations or this policy prohibits the District from placing an employee respondent on administrative leave during the pendency of a grievance process, however, nothing in Title IX regulations or this policy may be construed to modify any rights under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act.

VII. Informal Resolution *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(9))*

A. The District may not require as a condition of enrollment or continuing enrollment, or employment or continuing employment, or enjoyment of any other right, waiver of the right to an investigation and adjudication of formal complaints of sexual harassment consistent with this policy.

B. The District may not require the parties to participate in an informal resolution process under this policy and may not offer an informal resolution process unless a formal complaint is filed.

C. At any time prior to reaching a determination regarding responsibility the District may facilitate an informal resolution process, such as mediation, that does not involve a full investigation and adjudication, provided that the District:
   1. provides to the parties a written notice disclosing the allegations, the requirements of the informal resolution process including the circumstances under which it precludes the parties from resuming a formal complaint arising from the same allegations, provided, however, that at any time prior to agreeing to a resolution, any party has the

right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the grievance process with respect to the formal complaint, and any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained or could be shared;

2. obtains the parties' voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process; and

3. does not offer or facilitate an informal resolution process to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.

VIII. District's Grievance Process for Formal Complaints of Sexual Harassment *(34 CFR § 106.45(b))*

A. For the purpose of addressing formal complaints of sexual harassment, the District's grievance procedure as set forth in ACAA-R(1), Sexual Harassment – Regulations, shall be followed. There must be compliance with the requirements of this section, and any provisions, rules, or practices other than those required by this section that the District adopts as part of its grievance process for handling formal complaints of sexual harassment must apply equally to both parties.

B. Upon receipt of a formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator shall provide the following written notice to the parties who are known *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(2))*
   1. Notice of the District's grievance process, including any informal resolution process.

   2. Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment potentially constituting sexual harassment as defined in this policy, including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. Sufficient details include the identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known, the conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment, and the date and location of the alleged incident, if known. The written notice must include a statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process. The written notice shall inform the parties that they may have an advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and may inspect and review evidence. The written notice shall inform the parties of any provision in the District's code of conduct that prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process.

C. The District shall treat complainants and respondents equitably by providing remedies to a complainant where a determination of responsibility for sexual harassment has been made against the respondent. Remedies may be disciplinary in nature. Such remedies may include the same individualized services identified as supportive measures. Remedies must be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(i))*

D. The District shall follow the grievance process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures against a respondent. *(34 CFR § 106.44(a))*

E. Investigation of a formal complaint. When investigating a formal complaint and throughout the grievance process, the District:
   1. shall have the burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination, and the parties shall not have either burden; *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(5)(i))*
   2. cannot access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use a party's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in the professional's or paraprofessional's capacity, or assisting in that capacity, and which are made and maintained in connection with the provision of treatment to the party, unless the District obtains that party's voluntary, written consent to do so for a grievance process under this section. If a party is not an ''eligible student,'' (i.e., student who has reached 18 years of age), the District must obtain the voluntary, written consent of a ''parent,'' (i.e., natural parent, guardian, or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or a guardian; *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(5)(i))*
   3. shall provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence; *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(5)(ii))*
   4. shall not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence; provided, however, nothing in this provision prohibits the District from taking disciplinary action due to a party retaliating against any person due to that person having made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this policy. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(5)(iii))*
   5. shall provide the parties with the same opportunities to have others present during any grievance proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and not limit the choice or presence of advisor for either the

complainant or respondent in any meeting or grievance proceeding; however, the District may establish restrictions regarding the extent to which the advisor may participate in the proceedings, as long as the restrictions apply equally to both parties. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(5)(iv))*

F. There shall be an objective evaluation of all relevant evidence, and credibility determinations may not be based on a person's status as a complainant, respondent, or witness. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(ii))*

G. No individual designated by a recipient as a Title IX Coordinator, investigator, decision-maker, or any person designated by the District to facilitate an informal resolution process, may have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(iii))*

H. The Title IX Coordinator, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, shall receive training on the definition of sexual harassment, the scope of the District's education program or activity, how to conduct an investigation and grievance process including hearings, appeals, and informal resolution processes, as applicable, and how to serve impartially, including by avoiding prejudgment of the facts at issue, conflicts of interest, and bias. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(iii))*

1. The decision-makers shall receive training on any technology to be used at a live hearing and on issues of relevance of questions and evidence, including when questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant.
2. The investigators shall receive training on issues of relevance to create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.
3. No materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process, may rely on sex stereotypes, and training materials must promote impartial investigations and adjudications of formal complaints of sexual harassment.

I. Until a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process, the respondent is presumed to not be responsible for the alleged conduct. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(iv); 34 CFR § 106.45(b)(2)(i)(B))*

J. The District's grievance procedure as set forth in ACAA-R(1), Sexual Harassment – Regulations, shall:

K. including reasonably prompt time frames for filing and resolving appeals and informal resolution processes if District offers informal resolution processes; *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(vi))*

L. include a process that allows for the temporary delay of the grievance process or the limited extension of time frames for good cause with written notice to the complainant and the respondent of the delay or extension and the reasons for the action. Good cause may include considerations such as the absence of a party, a party's advisor, or a witness; concurrent law enforcement activity; or the need for language assistance or accommodation of disabilities; *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(v))*

M. include the range of possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies or list the possible disciplinary sanctions and remedies that the District may implement following any determination of responsibility; *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(vi))*

N. state that for all formal complaints of sexual harassment filed against students and employees, the standard of evidence to be used to determine responsibility is the preponderance of the evidence standard. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(vii))*

O. include the procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal; *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(viii))*

P. describe the range of supportive measures available to complainants and respondents; *(34 CFR § 1045(b)(1)(ix))* and

Q. not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding such privilege has waived the privilege. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(1)(x))*

K. If, in the course of an investigation, the District decides to investigate allegations about the complainant or respondent that are not included in the notice provided pursuant to provision B in this section, the District shall provide notice of the additional allegations to the parties whose identities are known. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(2)(ii))*

L. Any party whose participation is invited or expected, shall be given written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of all hearings, investigative interviews, or other meetings, with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(5)(v))*

M. All parties shall have equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in a formal complaint, including the evidence upon which the recipient does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence whether obtained from a party or other source, so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to conclusion of the investigation. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(5)(vi))*

N. Prior to completion of the investigative report, the District must send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in an electronic format or a hard copy, and the parties must have at least 10 calendar days to submit a written response, which the investigator will consider prior to completion of the investigative report. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(5)(vi))*

O. The investigator shall create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence and, at least 10 calendar days prior to a determination by a decision-maker regarding responsibility, send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the investigative report in an electronic format or a hard copy, for their review and written response. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(5)(vii))*

P. No adversarial hearing shall be held unless the determination of the Superintendent is appealed to the Board, or unless the Superintendent recommends the long term suspension or expulsion of a student, or the suspension without pay or termination of employment of an employee. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(6)(ii))*

Q. The Superintendent may make a recommendation to the Board that a student determined to have sexually harassed another person be suspended long-term or expelled (ARSD 24:07:01:01). The Superintendent may also make a recommendation to the Board that an employee determined to having sexually harassed another person be suspended without pay or the person's employment with the District be terminated. Should either recommendation be given by the Superintendent, a formal adversarial hearing shall be held before the Board as set forth in ACAA-R(1), Sexual Harassment – Regulations. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(8)(ii))*

IX. Appeal

A. Both parties have the right to appeal to the Board the Superintendent's determination regarding responsibility, and also from a dismissal of a formal complaint or any allegations therein, on the following bases:
   1. Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter; *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(8)(i)(A))*
   2. New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter; *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(8)(i)(B))* and
   3. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s), or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(8)(i)(C))*

B. As to all appeals, the Title IX Coordinator shall: *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(8)(iii))*
   1. notify the other party in writing when an appeal is filed and implement appeal procedures equally for both parties;
   2. ensure that the decision-maker(s) for the appeal is not the same person as the decision-maker(s) that reached the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal, the investigator(s), or the Title IX Coordinator;
   3. ensure that the decision-maker(s) for the appeal complies with the standard of evidence as required in this policy;
   4. give both parties a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome;
   5. ensure that a written decision is issued describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result, and provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties.

X. Consolidation of Formal Complaints

The District may consolidate formal complaints as to allegations of sexual harassment against more than one respondent, or by more than one complainant against one or more respondents, or by one party against the other party, where the allegations of sexual harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances. Where a grievance process involves more than one complainant or more than one respondent, references in this section to the singular ''party,'' ''complainant,'' or ''respondent'' include the plural, as applicable. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(4))*

XI. Dismissal of a Formal Complaint

A. The District must investigate the allegations in a formal complaint. If the conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment as defined in this policy even if proved, did not occur in the District's education program or activity, or did not occur against a person in the United States, then the District must dismiss the formal complaint with regard to that conduct for purposes of sexual harassment, however the dismissal does not preclude action under another provision of the District's code of conduct. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(3)(i))*

B. The District may dismiss the formal complaint or any allegations therein, if at any time during the investigation or hearing: *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(3)(ii))*
   1. a complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that the complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations therein;

2. the respondent is no longer enrolled in or employed by the District; or specific circumstances prevent the District from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations therein.

C. Upon a dismissal required or permitted pursuant to Section A. or B. above, the District shall promptly send written notice of the dismissal and reason(s) therefor simultaneously to the parties. *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(3)(iii))*

XII. Recordkeeping *(34 CFR § 106.45(b)(10))*

A. The District shall maintain for a period of seven years records of:
   1. each sexual harassment investigation including any determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent, and any remedies provided to the complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient's education program or activity;
   2. any appeal and the result therefrom;
   3. any informal resolution and the result therefrom; and
   4. all materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process. A recipient must make these training materials publicly available on its website, or if the recipient does not maintain a website the recipient must make these materials available upon request for inspection by members of the public.

B. For each response required under XII.A., the District shall create, and maintain for a period of seven years, records of any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, document the basis for its conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent, and document that it has taken measures designed to restore or preserve equal access to the recipient's education program or activity. If the complainant is not provided with supportive measures, the District shall document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

XIII. Retaliation Prohibited *(34 CFR § 106.71)*

A. Neither the District or other person may intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or this policy, or because the individual has made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this policy.

B. Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination, including charges against an individual for code of conduct violations that do not involve sex discrimination or sexual harassment, but arise out of the same facts or circumstances as a report or complaint of sex discrimination, or a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by title IX or this policy, constitutes retaliation.

C. Complaints alleging retaliation may be filed according to the grievance procedures for sex discrimination pursuant to the District's Nondiscrimination Policy.

D. The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment does not constitute retaliation prohibited by this provision.

E. Charging an individual with a code of conduct violation for making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of a grievance proceeding under this policy does not constitute retaliation prohibited by this policy, provided, however, that a determination regarding responsibility, alone, is not sufficient to conclude that any party made a materially false statement in bad faith.

XIV. Confidentiality

A. The District shall keep confidential the identity of any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination, including any individual who has made a report or filed a formal complaint of sexual harassment, any complainant, any individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination, any respondent, and any witness, except as may be permitted by Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), or as required by law, or to carry out the purposes of Title IX (34 CFR part 106), including the conduct of any investigation, hearing, or judicial proceeding arising thereunder. *(34 CFR § 106.71(a))*

B. The District shall maintain as confidential any supportive measures provided to the complainant or respondent, to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the District to provide the supportive measures. *(34 CFR § 106.30(a))*

Policy References: Legal references indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy, and policy cross-references identify additional policies related to the subject matter of the above policy.

State	Description
*Moran v. Rapid City Area School Dist.	Employee hearing due process

Federal	Description
CFR Title 34 Part 106	Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972	Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
USC Title 20 §1092(f)(6)(A)(v)	Definition of sexual assault
USC Title 20 §1681-1688	Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Educational Programs and Activitie
USC Title 34 §12291(a)(10)	Definition of dating violence
USC Title 34 §12291(a)(30)	Definition of stalking

Lettering

Specific lettering requirements for each sport or activity are left to the discretion of each head coach. The first time a student letters he/she will be given the respective letter "AC" or "DC" pin and a bar for that particular activity. Every time thereafter, he/she will only be given a bar by the head coach. It is understood that for an athlete to earn an athletic award they must have complied with all rules and regulations for athletic participation as established by the AC/DC Cooperative and the SDHSAA. The athlete must complete the season unless released by the coach for reason of illness, injury, or extraordinary circumstances. In this case, lettering will be at the discretion of the head coach and his/her staff. Lettering requirement should be made known to the athletes prior to the season. Lettering requirements for each activity should also be on file in the athletic director's office.

Awarding varsity letters to athletes for contributions made in their sport will be a coach's decision. However, there are some **guidelines** that the coaches should follow.

1. The policy should be made known to the athletes prior to the season.
2. The policy should be set so it is difficult to achieve, but attainable.
3. Athletes must complete the entire season to earn a letter.
4. Seniors that complete three (3) years in the program will earn a letter.
5. The head coach and athletic director will use discretion in the following categories: injuries, conduct, attitude, citizenship, post-season play, managers, student transfers or any condition not covered.

Cheerleading:

- Finish the season in good standing.

Competitive Cheer and Dance:

- Perform in at least 3 competitions.

Cross Country:

- Participate in half of the cross country varsity meets.

- Finish in good standing
- Medal in a varsity meet

Football:

- Participation in half of the total number of regular season quarters and completion of the season in good standing.

Volleyball:

- Participation in half of the total number of regular season games.

Basketball:

- Participation in one-fourth of the total number of regular season quarters and completion of the season in good standing.

Wrestling:

- Winning a minimum number of seventeen (17) letter points and completing the season in good standing.

Golf: To letter in golf, participants must have completed any one (1) of the following:

- Participate in half the varsity matches.
- Medal in a varsity match.
- Receive a match Score of 90 for boys or 110 for girls.

Track:

- Winning three (3) or more points during the season in major meets and having completed the season in good standing. Major meets shall consist of varsity competition at any of the following: invitational meet with five (5) or more schools, conference meet, regional meet, or state meet.

Student Managers/Statisticians:

- Complete the requirements of the sport that they serve as manager.

Award Night and Recognitions

Each activity will plan an individual awards night ceremony following the completion of the season to recognize achievement and promote team bonding.

At the last home event of the season, a listing of all athletes and families will be included in the program. Seniors on the team along with his/her parents will be formally recognized. The host school will supply each senior with a gift.

Additional Information

Chain of Command

In order for any organization to function well, there needs to be a properly functioning "Chain of Command". The Cooperative welcomes constructive comments when they are motivated by a sincere desire to improve the quality of the program and to help personnel in performing their tasks more effectively. The Cooperative places

trust in employees and support their actions in such manner that employees are freed from unnecessary spiteful, negative criticism, complaints and/or grievances.

Whenever a complaint is made directly to the school board (of either district) as a whole or to a board member as an individual, it shall be referred to the school administration so that the established procedures may be followed.

When a concern is noted, students and/or parents are to address the issue with the athletic director. The athletic director will assess the situation to see if a violation of the handbook has occurred, or if the matter is simply a question or comment.

- If a question or comment, the athletic director will direct student or parent to the coach for a constructive conversation, not accusation. If necessary, the athletic director will be present for this conversation.

- If a violation has occurred, the athletic director will apprise the coaching staff of the concern, allowing for explanation, comment, and presentation of the facts as he/she sees them.
- If matters are not settled in the first step, problems/questions will be taken to administration from both schools. The administrators will review the information and make appropriate determinations on the next steps to be taken.
- The AC/DC Cooperative Advisory Board will consider hearing citizen complaints and/or grievances when the first two steps cannot resolve them. Matters referred to the Advisory Board must be in writing and should be specific in terms of the complaints and/or grievances that have not been explored at the appropriate administrative level. All complaints must address which of the approved procedures have been violated.
- Individual student issues will be handled by each school according to their established procedures.

Parent Meeting

AC/DC Cooperative coaches are to conduct parent meetings prior to the start or within the first week of practice. The following areas need to be presented at this time:

1. the Cooperative's philosophy;
2. explanation of the risk of personal injury that is inherent with participation of the specific activity;
3. training rules;
4. additional rules and expectations;
5. proper submission of paperwork prior to participation;
6. restriction of athletes to participate without parent consent and proper physical forms;
7. participation restriction in any activity if athletes owe the department for lost equipment or uniforms;
8. the attendance policy in respect to activity participation;
9. the eligibility requirements;
10. the travel policy for activities;
11. the importance of sportsmanship;
12. the expectations for social media usage;
13. other pertinent information including the lettering policy;
14. honoring and celebrations; and
15. the chain of command and outline procedures for discussing issues

APPENDICES

South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) and Codified Law References

SDHSAA Eligibility for Athletic Participation

All activities programs in South Dakota Schools come under the direct supervision of the SDHSAA. The following guidelines have been established by the SDHSAA for activity eligibility. The AC/DC Cooperative expects all programs to be conducted within the proper guidelines of the state association.

The South Dakota High School Activities Association states a student is **not eligible** if:

1. he/she has reached their 20th birthday, as determined by the student's birth date;
2. he/she has attended more than 4 first semesters and 4 second semesters of school in grades 9-12. Enrollment in school for 15 school days or participation in an inter-school contest shall constitute a semester;
3. he/she did not pass 25 hours of high school work per week, in courses approved for the preceding semester;
4. he/she are not enrolled in and attend a minimum of 25 hours of high school work per week during the current semester. NOTE: If the student is used in the Average Daily Membership (ADM) count, full or partial day, then they are considered to have attended school;
5. he/she has graduated from a regular four-year high school or institution of equivalent rank;
6. he/she has not enrolled by the 16th school day of the current semester. The date of regular entry into classes is considered the date of enrollment;
7. he/she has been absent from school more than 10 consecutive school days (illness of the student or a death in immediate family excepted);
8. he/she has transferred from one high school to another without a corresponding change in the residence of their parents;
9. he/she does not have on file in the Athletic Director's office a signed physical examination and sports form;
10. he/she has ever participated in an athletic contest under an assumed name;
11. he/she has ever participated in athletics in any institution of learning of higher rank than a standard secondary school;
12. he/she has violated their amateur standing; or
13. during a high school sport season, he/she competed on an unattached basis as an individual or as a member of a non-school team.

Scholastic/Academic Eligibility Rules:

1. Preceding Semester: The student, unless they are entering high school for the first time, shall have successfully earned a minimum of two (2) units of credit which are used in the issuance of a diploma, for the preceding or for the most recent semester of attendance in any accredited high school. For the purposes of this subsection, enrollment and attendance in school or participation in one or more contests shall constitute a semester in determining eligibility. However, the Board of Directors or the Executive Director shall have the authority to waive the attendance rule when and if a student withdraws

from school as a result of an injury or illness and does not return to any school for the remainder of the semester and the student does not receive any high school course credits. NOTE: Failure to earn two (2) units of credit the previous semester causes the student to become ineligible the entire following semester. NOTE: Only credits accepted by the school for graduation may be used in determining whether a student successfully earned two (2) units of credit. (Source: Minutes of the January 10-11, 2001 SDHSAA Board of Directors Meeting.)

2. Current Semester. The student shall (a) be enrolled in an accredited high school and attend courses for which a minimum of two (2) units of credit may be earned towards the issuance of a diploma, (b) be receiving alternative instruction as set forth in SDCL 13-27-3 or (c) any student in grades ten, eleven, or twelve may apply to a constitution of higher education or a postsecondary vocational education institution as a special student in a course or courses offered at the institution of higher education or postsecondary vocational education institution. Correspondence/ college courses approved in advance by the high school principal for which credits earned are used in the issuance of a high school diploma may count towards the two (2) units of credit eligibility requirement. (Refer to SDCL 13-28-37)
3. A student's grades which are dependent upon completion of a project such as a vocational education project after the close of the academic school year shall be determined by the grade averages of record assuming satisfactory completion of the project. (Revised 7/11 By-Laws – 9 from SDHSAA)
4. Credit recovery. Students who have been declared ineligible because of academic deficiencies from the previous semester/trimester may earn scholastic/academic eligibility by taking an academic course(s) via the options approved by the SD Department of Education. Examples include, but not limited to, on-line courses, in-district credit recovery courses, alternative education settings, digital courses, etc. The Principal must monitor the successful completion of the course(s) and reinstate eligibility only after the successful completion of 2 units of credit as per Chapter I, Part IV, Section 1, Subsection D., page 8 of the By-Laws.
5. Beginning and ending of a semester. For the purpose of this subsection, the first semester shall be considered as ending on midnight on the day before the second semester begins and the second semester shall be considered as starting on the first day classes are held in said semester. The actual ending of the first/second semester or school year, rather than the date of graduation exercises or diploma date, controls the determination when eligibility terminates.

NOTE: Eligibility is extended to all students:

1. Who choose to graduate at the conclusion of the first semester until the first day of classes of the second semester.
2. Including those graduating students whenever a sub-state/state event is held after the school year has been completed at the local level.

SDCL 13-32-9 Suspension from Extracurricular Activities for Controlled Substance Violations

13-32-9. Any person adjudicated, convicted, the subject of an informal adjustment or court-approved diversion program, or the subject of a suspended imposition of sentence or suspended adjudication of delinquency for possession, use, or distribution of controlled drugs or substances or marijuana as defined in chapter 22-42, or for ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise taking into the body any substances as prohibited by § 22-42-15, is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity at any secondary school accredited by the Department of Education

for one calendar year from the date of adjudication, conviction, diversion, or suspended imposition of sentence. The one-year suspension may be reduced to sixty school days if the person participates in an assessment with a certified chemical dependency counselor or completes an accredited intensive prevention or treatment program. If the assessment indicates the need for a higher level of care, the student is required to complete the prescribed program before becoming eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Upon a subsequent adjudication, conviction, diversion, or suspended imposition of sentence for possession, use, or distribution of controlled drugs or substances or marijuana as defined in chapter 22-42, or for ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise taking into the body any substances as prohibited by § 22-42-15, by a court of competent jurisdiction, that person is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity at any secondary school accredited by the Department of Education. Upon such a determination in any juvenile court proceeding the Unified Judicial System shall give notice of that determination to the South Dakota High School Activities Association and the chief administrator of the school in which the person is participating in any extracurricular activity. The Unified Judicial System shall give notice to the chief administrators of secondary schools accredited by the Department of Education for any such determination in a court proceeding for any person eighteen to twenty-one years of age without regard to current status in school or involvement in extracurricular activities. The notice shall include name, date of birth, city of residence, and offense. The chief administrator shall give notice to the South Dakota High School Activities Association if any such person is participating in extracurricular activities.

Upon placement of the person in an informal adjustment or court-approved diversion program, the state's attorney who placed the person in that program shall give notice of that placement to the South Dakota High School Activities Association and chief administrator of the school in which the person is participating in any extracurricular activity.

As used in this section, the term, extracurricular activity means any activity sanctioned by the South Dakota High School Activities Association.