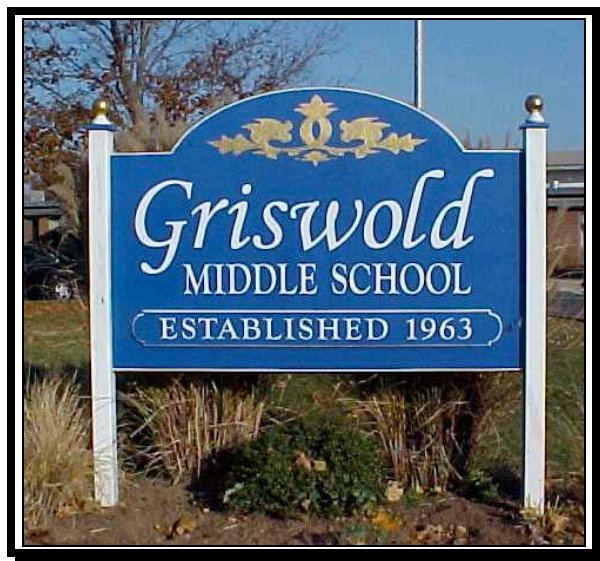


Griswold Middle School



Co-Curricular Activities Handbook

Mission Statement

The mission of co-curricular activities at Griswold Middle School is to aid in the academic, social, and emotional development of our students. Participation in co-curricular activities is an integral part of the academic program in that it fosters high expectations, team-building skills, self-discipline, and provides challenging experiences. Co-curricular activities stimulate the desire to achieve and maintain academic success while contributing to a positive school climate. Co-curricular activities require students to think critically, problem solve, manage time, and appreciate the talents and differing abilities of others. Through the development of these skills students involved in co-curricular activities will become confident, contributing members of the community.

Goals of the Co-Curricular Activities Program

- To provide as many students as possible the opportunity to participate in activities they enjoy.
- To foster academic and social achievement in students by emphasizing the importance of self-discipline, sacrifice and dedication to achieving goals.
- To develop in students the desire to continually improve through service to the school and the community.
- To develop in students emotional control, dependability and respect for rules and authority.
- To provide students the opportunity to work as a member of a group in order to achieve a goal, and, in the process, learn the importance of cooperation and teamwork.
- To foster self-worth and self-confidence in students.
- To provide students with experiences which require problem solving, decision-making, and critical thinking skills.
- To foster time-management skills in students.
- To provide students the opportunity to participate in activities with other students whose backgrounds and abilities may differ from their own.
- To develop in students a sense of school loyalty and generate school spirit.
- To develop within the community a sense of pride, loyalty and support for the students and the school.

Expectations for Participants in Co-Curricular Activities

Participation in co-curricular activities at Griswold Middle School is a privilege. It should be deemed an honor to represent one's school and community in these activities. It is a participant's responsibility to adhere to all expectations set forth by the school. Participants must realize that often more is expected of them than other students.

All participants are expected to:

- Conform to all rules set forth by Griswold Middle School, as well as the rules set forth by the respective activity.
- Act in a responsible manner, realizing that at all times, participants represent their school and community.
- Understand the importance of academics, and strive to establish and maintain satisfactory performance in the classroom.
- Adhere to the laws established by the local, state and federal governments.
- Refrain from participating in any behavior which demeans or embarrasses another.
- Attend and arrive on time for all activities.
- Abstain from the use of any form of alcohol/substance abuse.
- Leave situations where there is underage drinking or the illegal use of drugs.
- Refrain from using profanity or obscene language or gestures.
- Abstain from gambling at any activity.

Participants who fail to comply with these expectations may face disciplinary actions, including but not limited to dismissal from the activity.

Expectations for Parents

Parents are encouraged to support their children's co-curricular endeavors and recognize the importance of these activities in their children's lives. It is their responsibility to adhere to all expectations set forth by the school and this handbook.

All parents are expected to:

- Conform to all rules set forth by Griswold Middle School as well as the rules set forth by the respective activity.
- Understand that academics are a priority over co-curricular activities and emphasize successful classroom performance.
- Support and be enthusiastic about their child's chosen activity.
- Be positive, helping their child understand the benefits of co-curricular participation.
- Express any concerns about their child's participation in a rational and appropriate manner to the appropriate authority.
- Encourage their child to do the best he/she can regardless of ability.
- Emphasize to their children that any act of hazing or any behavior that demeans or embarrasses another will not be tolerated.

Expectations for Advisors

Advisors at Griswold Middle School play an integral part in the education and development of our students. The impact they may have on the lives of their students is immeasurable. It is an advisor's responsibility to adhere to all expectations set forth by the school.

All advisors are expected to:

- Conform to all rules set forth by Griswold Middle School, as well as the rules set forth by the respective activity.
- Understand the importance of academics and emphasize that participants establish and maintain satisfactory performance in the classroom.
- Act in a responsible manner, realizing that at all times, advisors represent their students, school, and community.
- Understand the importance of their position as a role model for their students.
- Be positive, helping their student understand the benefits of co-curricular participation.
- Respect and dignify each student as an individual.
- Promote conditions and circumstances that encourage each student to reach his/her full potential.
- Insist students abide by the expectations of the specific activity and by the activity's rules.
- Work with parents and school personnel to guarantee the best interests of his/her students.
- Communicate and work with appropriate booster organizations to maximize their benefit to the students.
- Demonstrate fair and unprejudiced relationships with all students.
- Encourage students to do their best regardless of ability.
- Refrain from participating in any act of hazing and not tolerate any such act by any student.
- Attend and arrive on time for all activities and provide adequate supervision of the students.

Advisors who fail to comply with these expectations may face disciplinary actions, including but not limited to removal from their advisorship.

Conflict Resolution

Should a conflict arise between a participant or parent and an advisor, it is expected that they will work together to resolve the issue. Parents are encouraged to contact the appropriate advisor in such instances. If a resolution can not be reached, the advisor or parent should bring the issue to the attention of the advisor who will mediate the problem. If necessary, the advisor will refer any further problems to the high school administration.

Out of School Conduct

Co-curricular participants at Griswold Middle School are expected to act in a legal and responsible manner, realizing that at all times, they are representing their school and activity. Conduct out of school which discredits or embarrasses Griswold Middle School or any activity may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the activity. Further disciplinary action may also be taken if deemed appropriate by the school administration.

Substance Abuse

The use of smoking materials or any other tobacco product, any type of alcoholic product, or any narcotic or drug is absolutely forbidden. The possession of alcoholic beverages, any narcotics, or any drugs is also forbidden. (Legal medications prescribed by a doctor, must be kept by the school nurse.) All school rules and regulations regarding substance abuse are outlined in the student handbook and apply to participants at co-curricular activities. In addition co-curricular participants are not to be in the presence of and are expected to remove themselves from any situations of underage alcohol consumption or illegal use of drugs whether occurring on or off school grounds. Failure to comply with this requirement shall result in discipline up to and including removal from the activity. Any violation of school rules involving drugs, alcohol, or tobacco will result in dismissal from the activity.

Suspension

Students suspended from school, (outside or in-school suspension) are not permitted to participate in, or attend any activity during the period of their suspension. In addition to school suspension/detention, advisors may impose penalties if warranted, up to and including dismissal from the activity.

Possible Activities Offered:

Art Club	Academic Exchange Club
Homework Club	Ski Club
CPR Training Club	Student Council
Drama Club	Dance Team
Yearbook	Griswold Give Back Day
Young Educators Society	Student Announcers
Leo's Club	Sister School Partnership (7 th Grade Only)
Newspaper Club	
Talent Show	
Technology Club	

Where sufficient interest exists, students may petition the administration for additional co-curricular activities.