

# Pocatello/Chubbuck School District

## Student Athlete / Parent / Coach Communication Guide

SPORTSMANSHIP IS A JOURNEY,  
NOT A DESTINATION

*"Pursue victory and honor  
and  
handle defeat with dignity"*



### COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR STUDENT'S COACH

- \* Coach's and program's philosophy
- \* Individual and team expectations
- \* Location and times of all practices
- \* Team requirement, i.e. special equipment, off-season condition
- \* Procedure followed should your student be injured during practice or games
- \* Any discipline or behavior that may result in the denial of your student's participation on the team

### COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

- \* Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- \* Notification of schedule conflicts well in advance
- \* Specific concerns with regard to coach's philosophy and/or expectations
- \* Support for the program and dedication, commitment and responsibility are essential ingredients for success and excellence. Encourage your student to excel. It is also important to understand there might be times when things do not go the way you or your student wish

### APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

- \* The treatment of your student; mentally and physically
- \* Ways to help your student improve and develop in a sport
- \* Concerns about your student's behavior. It is very difficult to accept your student not playing as much as you hope. Coaches are professionals. They make decisions based on what they believe is best for the team and all the athletes involved. Teams are determined during practice

### ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

- \* Playing time
- \* Play calling
- \* Team strategy
- \* Other student athletes

### DISCUSSIONS WITH COACHES

- \* Call to set up an appointment
- \* If the coach cannot be reached, contact the Athletic Director
- \* Please do not confront a coach before, after or during a practice or game. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach

### THE NEXT STEP

- \* Athletics support our school mission statement. They are an extension of a good educational program. Students participating in athletics tend to have a higher grade point average, better attendance records, lower drop-out rates and fewer discipline problems.
- \* Athletics are inherently educational. They provide valuable lessons on many practical situations; team work, sportsmanship, winning, losing and hard work. Self-discipline, self-confidence and many skills are developed through participation which helps to mold productive and responsible citizens.
- \* Athletics foster success in later life. Participation is often a predictor of later success in college, career, and becoming a contributing member of society.
- \* While your student is involved in interscholastic athletics, he/she will experience some of the most rewarding and inspiring moments of his/her life.
- \* Research indicates that students involved in athletics are most likely to succeed at their chosen profession and make creative contributions to their communities. Many of the character traits, qualities, and attributes

required to be a successful student athlete will also promote a successful life.

### **SURVEY OF HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS**

- \* 95% believe that valuable lessons are learned that cannot be taught in a regular classroom routine
- \* 99% agree that citizenship is promoted
- \* 95% agree that athletic programs contribute to school spirit among students
- \* 76% believe that demand on students' time by athletics is not excessive
- \* 72% said there is strong support for school athletic programs from parents and community

### **SURVEY OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

- \* A majority said that participation is a very important part of a high school education
- \* 63% said that athletics helped make high school much more enjoyable

### **PARENTS SHOULD BE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE**

- \* Encourage your child to succeed
- \* Be positive through the good and bad time
- \* Be there with support
- \* Give credit to the team
- \* Show respect for the coaches
- \* Exhibit respect for the officials
- \* Demonstrate respect for opponents
- \* Help us to create a terrific environment for athletics at Pocatello/Chubbuck School District 25
- \* Provide a model of behavior that an athlete can be proud of at all times

### **THE ROLE OF PARENTS, STUDENT ATHLETES AND COACHES**

- \* Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult jobs. By establishing communication and understanding of each position, we are

better able to accept the actions of the others and provide greater benefit to our student athletes. To be successful, communication is vital and requires involvement, dedication, sacrifice, and commitment from parents, student athletes and coaches

- \* Please support our rules and regulations regarding participation for student athletes
- \* It is expected that the athlete will display appropriate behavior in school; contribute to school spirit by participating in various events such as rallies; respect the abilities of the other sports and show a spirit of cooperation with teachers, coaches, teammates and opponents

### **SCHOOL DISTRICT 25 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENT ATHLETES AND COACHES**

- \* Uphold the dignity, honor and integrity of our school
- \* Develop positive relationships and teach the importance of family, academics and extra-curricular activities
- \* Encourage and promote sportsmanship among the home team, visiting teams, coaching staff and spectators
- \* Take an active role in the prevention of the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco
- \* Encourage safety before success
- \* Work with and respect the officials in and out of the athletic arena

### **GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP FOR STUDENTS AND OTHERS**

- \* A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious
- \* A student spectator represents his/her school the same as does the athlete
- \* Respond with enthusiasm to the call of the cheerleaders for yells in support of the team, especially when it may be losing
- \* Learn the rules of the various athletic games so

- that, as spectators, comments will be accurate
- \* Recognize and applaud any exhibition of fine play or good sportsmanship on the part of the visiting team
  - \* Be considerate of the injured on the visiting team
  - \* Insist on the courteous treatment of the visiting team as it passes through the streets or visits the local school building and extend them every possible courtesy
  - \* Acquaint the adults of the community and pupils with the ideals of sportsmanship that are acceptable to the high school or middle school
  - \* Impress upon the community its responsibility for the exercise of self-control and fair play at all athletic contests
  - \* Any spectator who continually displays poor sportsmanship will not be allowed to attend future contests
  - \* Noise makers, i.e. cow bells, horns, etc., are not allowed at athletic contests
  - \* The police will remove anyone from the premises who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs
  - \* Refrain from cheers which downplay the opponent
  - \* Refrain from use of profane/abusive language