

(Parents - please read the following information, detach and keep for future reference)

**CONRAD WEISER
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT**

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PARENT/COACH COMMUNICATION PLAN

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefits to children. As parents, when your child becomes involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

Communication You Should Expect from Your Child's Coach

1. Philosophy of the program
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the squad
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests
4. Team requirements, i.e. practices, special equipment, out-of-season conditioning
5. Discipline that may result in the denial of your child's participation

Communications Coaches Expect from Parents

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance

As your child becomes involved in the programs of the Conrad Weiser School District, he or she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his or her life. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wish. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

1. The treatment of your child
2. Ways to help your child improve
3. Concerns about your child's behavior

We realize it is very difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. *Coaches are professionals.* They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. The following things must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue or concern.

Procedure for Discussing a Concern with a Coach

1. Please encourage your child to speak directly with the coach. Many times the matter can be taken care of at that time.
2. You can set up an appointment with the coach by calling the athletic office at (610) 693-8528.

3. **Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice.** These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.
4. If the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution, **call and set up an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.**

Expectations of Parent/Guardian

1. Support your student athlete's efforts toward success.
2. Work to promote a positive environment that is conducive to the development of the student athlete.
3. Become familiar with and review with your student athlete the rules and regulations.
4. Communicate any concerns in a timely manner, according to district protocol.
5. Treat all coaching personnel with courtesy and respect and insist your student athlete do the same.

Since research indicates a student involved in co-curricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood, these programs have been established. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided here makes both your child's and your experiences with the Conrad Weiser School District athletic program less stressful and more enjoyable.

ATTENDANCE RULES FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students are expected to be in school or they cannot participate in extracurricular activities. Exceptions will be made for specific circumstances when needed. The underlying philosophy is that if students need to miss, they should miss as little time as possible and it needs to be verified by a note from someone other than the parent.

- a) Medical/Dental Appointments – students need to have a note from the doctor or dentist. Students should be in school before and/or after whenever possible. If the appointment takes longer than approximately the thirty minutes that might usually be expected, the student should see that the note from the doctor or dentist includes what time the student left the office to verify the extra time.
- b) Funerals – students may need to miss at times for funerals. The student should bring a note from the parent the day before the funeral and turn it in to the office. The note should explain the amount of time that the student will miss, which will vary based on the time and location of the funeral and specific circumstances. The student should see Dr. Adams or Mr. Kline to verify that there are no problems.
- c) Court Hearings – if a student needs to miss because of a court proceeding, the student should have a subpoena or something from the court specifically verifying the time that the student had to be in court.
- d) College Visits – Students should try to schedule college visits on days off from school (such as in-service days, days between semesters, vacation days) if at all possible. Visits should also be planned for days between seasons or out of season if possible.

If visits need to occur on a school day during the season, the student should bring in a note from parents three to five days ahead of time and be prepared to explain why the visit needs to occur on this date or on that approximate date.

The visit needs to be approved ahead of time by Dr. Adams or Mr. Kline. The student will need to have something from the college to verify the visit in order to participate in extra-curricular activities that day.

- e) Driver Tests – driver tests should be scheduled on a day or time other than during school. If this seems impossible, it should be scheduled to miss as little school time as possible. The student should bring in a parent note two or three days ahead of time and get approval from Dr. Adams or Mr. Kline. The student will then need to bring verification from the driver test site to verify being there.
- f) Senior Pictures – senior pictures should be scheduled for the summer before grade 12 to avoid any problems. A maximum of 1-1/2 hours of time missed would be allowed with parent note and confirmation from the photographer.

REMINDER – a parental note DOES NOT take the place of a dentist, doctor, college visit, or a driver test site note.

Russ Kline
Athletic Director

RK/hmd
Athletic.ParentCoach Communication Plan