

Enid Public Schools

Excellence. Pride. Success.

Spirit Handbook

March 2018

Philosophy:

As members of Enid Spirit, and the face of Enid Public Schools, we will work to be exemplary role model students, athletes, and community members.

Purpose(s):

- To promote school spirit
- To promote a positive school climate
- To promote good sportsmanship
- To build an enthusiastic student body
- To display teamwork and cooperation
- To establish important life skills (i.e. time management, goal setting, healthy lifestyle habits, etc)

Obligations:

- **Time**: The amount of time required of EHS Spirit team members will vary from season to season and throughout the year. Additional activities other than practice and game time will be involved in the time commitment. Academics are our first priority. EHS Spirit team commitment will come before all other activities.
- **Games**: Spirit members will be required at designated Freshman, JV, and Varsity events. The major events include football and basketball games. Additional events may include wrestling, regionals, or any other tournament/playoff games designated by the Spirit Coordinator.
- **Community Service**: There will be some required events throughout the year to give back to our community. In the event a community service opportunity arises, the coach will follow notification guidelines before requiring attendance.
- **Volunteering**: All Spirit members will be required to attend at least 4 volunteer events of their choice throughout the year (2 per semester). Given the nature and spontaneity of volunteer events, the coach will not be held to the regular notification requirement. The student is not required to attend all volunteer opportunities.

Enid Public Schools

Excellence. Pride. Success.

- **Financial:**
 - Team members may be required to make individual purchases that they may keep and reuse (i.e. shoes, booties/bloomers, poms, etc).
 - Team members are responsible for paying to attend mandatory summer training camp. If there is a scheduling conflict, communication with coach is required.
 - Team members are required to participate in all team fundraisers (color run, golf tournament, etc). A minimum amount will be assigned to each member. If the minimum amount is not raised, that balance becomes the members' financial responsibility. If amount is left unpaid, the amount will result in a past-due fine on student record (even if member quits/is removed from the team).

Team Assignments

- Initial team placement is determined by outside judging. JV and Varsity placement is determined solely by the coach. The coach may move members wherever she sees fit throughout the season.
- Seniors are not guaranteed a position on Varsity. That is a position that must be earned and maintained.
- Given the rigor and skill requirements of special performances/competition, not all members are guaranteed a position. All members will be given an opportunity to earn a spot on special performance/competition groups, but the coach will ultimately make the final decision.

Team Rules

- **Eligibility** (violations = no participation/removal from the team)
 - All members must maintain OSSAA eligibility
 - All members must agree to follow the district wide athletic drug policy
 - All members must complete Rank One forms in order to participate
 - All members must sign and agree to comply with the Social Media contract (see attached)
 - Spirit members who meet lettering requirements will earn a letter at the end of the season (see attached)
- **Attendance** (violations = 1 demerit)
 - Spirit members will be given minimum 1 week notice for all required practices, games, and events. If 1 week notice is not given, attendance is not mandatory, but strongly suggested.

Enid Public Schools

Excellence. Pride. Success.

- School related activities/events (i.e. NHS, STUCO, Speech/Debate, etc) in which attendance is mandatory, Spirit members are required to give coach minimum 1 week notice in order for absence to be excused.
- An absence may be excused if the coach is notified prior to the missed practice, game, or event. If the absence is due to illness or injury, a doctor's note must be provided.
 - All doctor's notes must include a date in which the member may return to practice. If the note provided does not include a return date, member will be required to go back to the doctor to get a separate clearance note.
- Tardies may be excused at coaches discretion providing the member has communicated with the coach prior to the practice, game, or event.
- Unexcused absences will result in 1 demerit.
 - If a member is absent unexcused the week of a performance, this will result in receiving 1 demerit and removal from that performance.
- 2 unexcused tardies will result in 1 unexcused absence, therefore 1 demerit will be received.
- Failure to meet the mandatory number of volunteer events will be considered 1 unexcused absence per event left unfulfilled.
- **Behavior** (violation = 1 demerit)
 - All school rules apply to Spirit members in and out of uniform while they are representing Enid Public Schools.
 - As Spirit members, you are held to a higher standard of behavior. If the coach is given reason to believe a member is not meeting that standard, a meeting with the coach and Spirit Coordinator will be called and may result in a behavior contract as well as a demerit.
 - All members are required to adhere to the rules and regulations specified in the Social Media agreement. If the coach and/or Spirit Coordinator witnesses (or is made aware of) inappropriate behavior, language, or bullying, dismissal is an option. **Parents should recognize and respect this, as well.** We represent Enid. We should reflect our philosophy on all levels.
- **Uniform** (violation = 1 demerit)
 - As a performance squad, appearance is important. Given the nature of the event, the coach will determine what kind of appearance will be necessary.

Enid Public Schools

Excellence. Pride. Success.

- Spirit members are responsible for their own uniform. Uniforms must be cleaned before they are returned.
- Uniforms purchased out of the Spirit Account will remain property of the school district and therefore must be returned.
- Uniforms should only be worn to designated school and community events.
- **Uniforms may not be loaned to anyone for any reason.**
- Uniforms and accessories that are to be worn to an activity will be decided by the coach.
 - On top of receiving a demerit, if there is a uniform violation on game/performance day, the coach reserves the right to bench the Spirit member from the sideline or performance.
- If a uniform is lost/permanently altered or damaged in any way, the Spirit member is responsible to pay for the replacement piece. Failure to pay for a replacement will result in a past-due balance on student account.
- Spirit members are allowed to make **temporary** alterations to uniforms. Please take the uniform to a professional. They can make **temporary** hems/alterations that are easily removed. All alterations must be removed before returning.
- **Transportation** (violation = 1 demerit)
 - When transportation is provided for an out-of-town event by the Athletic Dept., attendance is mandatory.
 - Attendance is not required at out-of-town events in which transportation is not provided.
 - Spirit members are not allowed to ride with anyone other than a guardian after an out-of-town game/event - even with parent consent.

Consequences for Violations of Team Rules (demerits)

- First 3 violations:
 - 1st demerit = verbal warning
 - 2nd demerit = benched from game/performance, but still required to attend in uniform and sit where the coach assigns in order to support teammates.
 - 3rd demerit = conference with coach and Spirit Coordinator.
- If cycle repeats, upon need of 2nd conference, Spirit member will receive 1 week suspension (no participation in practices, games, or events) and behavior contract will be required before member is able to return.

Enid Public Schools

Excellence. Pride. Success.

- If cycle repeats again, upon need of 3rd conference, Spirit member will be removed from the team.

Grading:

- 5 points will be given weekly (1 point per day).
- Points earned will reflect compliance with team rules (eligibility, attendance, behavior, uniform, and transportation).
- 1 demerit = 1 point lost
- Remember, your grade in Cheer/Pom is applied to your GPA. Let your grade reflect your commitment to our squad, our school, and our community.

Communication:

- The Remind App is utilized by all Spirit squads. Spirit members, along with at least one parent/guardian, are required to join their corresponding Remind group.
- Remind allows coaches to post schedules, updates, and other important information directly to the Spirit members' phone. Remind also allows private messaging (texting) between the members/parents and the coach.
- Parents and members are encouraged to communicate with the coaches. If you have questions or concerns, please address the coach first. If the question or concern is left unresolved, the Spirit Coordinator may get involved.

Mykala Irsik mmirsik@enidk12.org	Jasmyn Hammer jnhammer@enidk12.org	Allyson Robinson robinsonally13@gmail.com
---	--	---

Enid Public Schools

Excellence. Pride. Success.

Varsity Lettering Requirements

Cheer & Pom

Varsity Letterman Policy

1. Girls who are on the varsity squad and cheer at 10 games or more and who finish the season in good standing with the program will receive a varsity letter for cheerleading.
2. Any senior who has participated on the Enid High School Varsity Cheerleading squad during her senior year and has maintained eligibility.
3. Any athlete that exhibits an extraordinary amount of dedication and hard work to the program that is lacking qualification of criteria may be awarded a letter at the discretion of the head coach.
4. All equipment must be maintained properly and must be checked in the date assigned by the head coach.

Any item or issue to the question or left out will be left to the discretion of the head coach.

Enid Public Schools

Excellence. Pride. Success.

GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES

As a public institution of high school education, Enid Spirit supports and encourages its EHS Spirit member's rights to freedom of speech, expression and association, including the use of social networks. Nevertheless, as representatives of the school, EHS Spirit members are held to a higher standard and are role models. Participating and competing for EHS Spirit is a privilege, not a right. In this context, each spirit member has the responsibility to portray him or herself, the team, and Enid Spirit in an appropriate manner, consistent with federal and State laws, team and program policies and regulations, and OSSAA rules and policies. EHS Spirit members will be held responsible for their actions when using forms of electronic communication including but not limited to Xanga.com, YouTube.com, Friendster.com, Facebook.com, and other internet sites, as well as Twitter, blogs, chat rooms and other such electronic mediums. Ignorance of these regulations and policies does not excuse EHS Spirit members from adhering to them.

In addition, EHS Spirit members must keep in mind that information which is posted can adversely impact personal safety, student status, and career advancement as the postings are easily accessible to reporters, potential employers, law enforcement officials, and college admissions. EHS Spirit members are expected to post only information and images that appropriately represent themselves, their families, the athletic program and the community of Enid.

Everything posted online is public information – any text or photo placed online is completely out of an individual's control the moment it is placed online – even if account restrictions and privacy settings are in place. Information (including pictures, videos, comments and posters) may be accessible even after you remove it.

These guidelines are presented as expectations for student-athletes to follow:

1. EHS Spirit members should not post any information, photos, comments, videos or other items online that would embarrass or reflect negatively on them, their family, team, school, Enid Department of Athletics, or Enid Public Schools.
2. For safety and privacy reasons, EHS Spirit members should not post their home address, local address, phone number(s), date of birth, class schedule, team travel arrangements, team hotel and restaurants or other personal information including personal whereabouts at any given time or place. This will minimize the potential of being stalked, assaulted, or becoming the victim of other criminal activity.
3. What students post online may affect their future? Many employers and college admissions officers review social networking sites as part of their overall evaluation of an applicant. EHS Spirit members should carefully consider how they want to be perceived by those viewing the information posted online. This includes including pictures, video and audio clips, comments and posters.
4. EHS Spirit members should be mindful that Internet postings showing images or language reflecting sexual misconduct, underage drinking, violence, hazing, use of illegal drugs or controlled substances may affect their status as a member of the EHS Spirit Program.
5. EHS Spirit may monitor the internet sites for the sole purpose of determining whether student-athletes are in compliance. If it is determined that a student-athlete has violated these expectations, they may be asked to remove content from the website and are subject to the loss of athletic privileges and other sanctions as appropriate. Disciplinary action includes but is not limited to being benched or dismissed from a team.
6. Derogatory language or remarks about teammates or coaches from Enid High Schools or any other school is unacceptable. Disrespectful comments and content aimed toward any player, staff member, team, program, school district, etc. will NOT be tolerated.
7. Making demeaning statements, physical/emotional threats to another person(s), and engaging in any other behavior that can be considered cyber-bullying is unacceptable, illegal behavior subject to punishment as appropriate and available to the District. EHS Spirit members who engage in cyber-bullying also risk civil and/or criminal charges and/or lawsuits that may be filed by their victim(s) or their families.

Enid Public Schools

Excellence. Pride. Success.

Enid Public Schools

Excellence. Pride. Success.

Social Networking Signature Form:

I have read, understood, and agree to abide by the regulations, standards, and guidelines described in this document.

Athlete Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

EHS Spirit Handbook Signature Form:

I have read, understood, and agree to abide by the regulations, standards, and guidelines described in this document.

Athlete Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

*****This document MUST be signed and returned by Monday, April 2nd*****