



2020-2021

Athletic Handbook

Brazosport Christian School
200-B Willow Drive
Lake Jackson, Texas 77566
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www.1bcs.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

This handbook is intended to acquaint the parents and students of BCS with the current policies and practices.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM PROFILE	3
ATHLETIC POLICIES	4
Philosophy	4
Goals	5
Team Level Philosophy.....	7
GENERAL POLICIES.....	7
Parent/Coach Conferences.....	7
Parent/Athlete Responsibilities	8
School Attendance.....	8
Student Athlete Attitude	8
Quitting a Sport.....	8
Academic Responsibilities	8
Eligibility.....	9
Limits of Participation.....	9
Uniforms	9
Scheduling.....	9
Transportation and Travel.....	10
Hotel Policy.....	10
Inclement Weather.....	10
Gambling	10
Hazing	10
Booster Club (Eagles Wings of Faith)	11
Requirements for Athletic Awards and Lettering in a Varsity Sport.....	12
Parent Signature Page.....	13
ATHLETIC POLICIES FOR SPIRIT SQUADS	13
Purpose	13
General Eligibility	13
Selection Process.....	14
Expectations	14
Rules of Conduct	15
Travel	15
Equipment	15
Player Expense.....	15
Special Events.....	15
Competitions.....	15
Fundraisers.....	16
Mission Projects.....	16
Leadership.....	16
Demerit System/Grading Policy	16
Coaches/Spirit Director	16
SPIRIT SQUAD DISCIPLINE POLICY	16
Benching.....	17
Probation	17
Dismissal	18
Parent Signature Page.....	15

ATHLETIC PROGRAM PROFILE

Mascot: Eagles

Colors: Royal Blue and Gold

League: Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools ([TAPPS](#)) grades 9-12

Classification: TAPPS 2A / Division II 6-man Football

Sports: Grades 9-12 Football, Volleyball, Cheerleading, Basketball, Baseball, Softball, Track, Tennis, Golf, Cross Country, Winter Soccer

Grades 6-8 Football, Volleyball, Cheerleading, Basketball, Baseball, Softball

TAPPS District Competition:

6-Man Football

Conroe Covenant Christian
Bryan St. Joseph Catholic
Grace Christian Academy
Bryan Allen Academy
Huntsville Alpha Omega

Volleyball/Basketball

Conroe Covenant
Houston The Briarwood
Huntsville Alpha Omega
Highlands Chinquapin
Galveston O'Connell

Baseball/Softball

Alvin Living Stones Christian
Orange Community Christian
Galveston O'Connell
Conroe Covenant
Bellville Faith Academy
Huntsville Alpha Omega
Baytown Christian School

State Championships:

Baseball: 1996, 2012, 2014

Football: 1999

Softball: 2015

ATHLETIC POLICIES

Philosophy BCS athletics helps to fulfill the mission of the school by teaching qualities of knowledge, character, leadership, and service to the glory of God expressed through the six pillars of Eagle Athletics:

Pillar #1: Discipline

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid. - Proverbs 12:1

For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. - Hebrews 12:10-11

Pillar #2: Honor

Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. - Romans 12:10

Brazosport Christian School Athletic Handbook 2016-2017, Revision July 25, 2016, Page 3 of 15

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BCS policies may be changed from time to time, as the school, in its sole discretion, may elect. Furthermore, such policies shall be considered in light of the overall policies and proceedings established for the school's students. The policies expressed herein, as they may be amended from time to time, shall supersede and have control over any previously published guidelines and/or policies.

Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. - Hebrews 13:18

Pillar #3: Courage

Then David said to Solomon his son, "Be strong and courageous and do it. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed, for the Lord God, even my God, is with you. He will not leave you or forsake you, until all the work for the service of the house of the Lord is finished. - 1 Chronicles 28:20

The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion. - Proverbs 28:1

Pillar #4: Strength

Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. - 1 Corinthians 16:13

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. - Ephesians 6:10

Pillar #5: Faith

And Jesus said to him, "If you can"! All things are possible for one who believes." - Mark 9:23

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. - 2 Timothy 4:7

Pillar #6: Selflessness

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. - Philippians 2:3-4

For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." - Galatians 5:14

The BCS Athletic Department acknowledges the following order of priorities in our school – 1) God, 2) family, 3) academics, and 4) athletics. When this order is followed, it gives student-athletes the opportunity to be balanced spiritually, physically, mentally, and emotionally.

Goals

Based on our philosophy, our athletic department and team goals are:

Excellence - programs focused on discipleship that honor God and are well managed and well executed

Success - reaching maximum potential both individually and as a team

We will emphasize the individual goal of Academic All-State to all of our students in grades 11 and 12. Being a great student and a great athlete is a difficult task, an admirable goal, and a worthy accomplishment.

It is our desire that our athletic community – coaches, players and parents – participate in such a way that honors God and conveys a positive witness to those around us. We will be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.

Team Level Philosophy

We recognize the normal stages of a child's development and provide appropriate opportunities in athletics:

Varsity competition is the culminating experience for each sport's program. It is an experience provided for the elite athlete and is the most demanding and competitive of all programs. Although junior and senior athletes dominate most varsity team rosters, gifted ninth and tenth grade athletes are eligible for varsity level play. Prior participation in the program does not guarantee an athlete a spot on the roster, even if the athlete was a member of the varsity squad the preceding year. While contest participation over the course of a season is desirable, a specified amount of playing time at the varsity level is never guaranteed, since the outcome of the contest becomes an important consideration at this level. A goal of a varsity team should be to qualify for post-season play in district, regional or state competition. In the individual sports (cross country, tennis, golf, etc.), opportunities are presented to qualified, dedicated team members to represent the district in individual championship competitions at the league, division, and state levels. These opportunities are only provided, however, to those individuals who show a complete and ongoing commitment to the team.

Junior Varsity athletes are in the process of gaining the valuable knowledge, skill and experience required for varsity competition. Junior Varsity athletes may, on occasion, participate in varsity contests. Decisions of this nature are based on the evaluation of the athletes' abilities by the coaching staff and are not absolute. Skill, conditioning, work ethic and reliability are big factors in an athlete's quest to move up. At this level, athletes are expected to have visibly committed themselves to the program and continued self-development. To this end, increased emphasis is placed on physical conditioning, refinement of fundamental skills, elements and strategies of team play, and social and emotional development. Junior varsity programs work towards achieving a balance between continued team and player development and the quest for victory. The outcome of the contest does become a consideration at this level.

Junior High programs, in general, offer an introduction to the world of competitive athletics. At this point, the focus is on learning basic skills and game rules, fundamentals of team play, social and emotional growth, and healthy competition. While we try to avoid cuts at the middle school level, certain factors exist that must be dealt with by imposing a limitation on the number of students that can be accommodated in specific programs. Opportunities for contest participation for each team member will exist over the course of a season, providing that the athlete meets program expectations. Playing time will vary between individuals and will be determined by the coach. Determining factors will include readiness capacity, skill level, team will be determined by the coach. Determining factors will include readiness capacity, skill level, team expectations and safety. Creation and size of teams is determined by many factors including but not limited to the number of participants interested in a sport, facility availability, safety and coaching resources.

Whatever we do we want to do it well. Decisions will be made on a season-by-season, team-by-team basis if we cannot provide a healthy experience for all parties involved.

GENERAL POLICIES

Parent/Coach Conferences

If concerns arise, please follow the Matthew 18 guidelines. These guidelines are important to us because they allow us to address the problem directly, instead of letting it fester, or gossiping about it to others. Please honor God and our athletic department by following these steps in order. Note: Please do not go over the athletic director's head straight to the school or church administration.

1. The athlete speaks to the coach about the problem.
2. If the problem is not resolved, the parent should go with the athlete to talk to the coach. Please refrain from speaking with the coach about issues right before or after a game. Set up an appointment to speak on a mutual date.
3. If the concern is still not resolved, speak with the athletic director to discuss your concern.

Parent/Athlete Responsibilities

In order for BCS to provide an effective and well-ran athletic program for your student-athletes, the following requirements are necessary for your child to participate in BCS athletics:

- Volunteer Hours: parents are responsible to run the gate and help with concession stand for home games.
- Financial responsibility for lost/damaged uniforms
- Athletes must furnish their own shoes, socks, special wraps or supports, and other needed items for the sport in which they are participating.
- Travel Expenses
- Additional personal expenses may be incurred while the team is travelling.
- Food during travel
- Lodging
- Athletic Fee: The athletic fee only covers a minority of the amount that is required to play sports. Any additional costs need to be covered by the parent.

All fees must be paid for (or payment plan arranged) before the first game of the season for each sport. You will not be able to start a new sport until the previous sport fee has been paid.

Sport Fees are as follows:

High School - 1 Sport = 250.00 / 2 Sports = 350.00 / 3+ Sports = 400.00

Junior High - 150.00 per sport / 3+ Sports = 400.00

Family Cap = 800.00

School Attendance

- Students must be present in at least half of the school day (4 periods) to participate in practice or games on that day.
- If a student misses a practice or a game, he/she is required to notify the coach by phone or email.
- If you know you will be absent for an excused reason, please notify the coach as soon as possible.
- If an athlete has an unexcused absence from practice, he/she cannot participate in the next game, match, or meet; however, the athlete IS REQUIRED to be with their team and be supportive during the event.

Student – Athlete Attitude

The student who chooses to participate in the athletic program is in a unique position. This position will be observed by many public and private schools, media, parents, peers, teachers, and the public at large. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate one's desire to be Christ-like in attitude and sportsmanship. This is not just during competition, but includes practice, the classroom, and any time representing BCS. Students with poor attitudes and behavior will be disciplined accordingly. Severe or repetitive actions/behaviors/attitudes could result in suspension from a game/meet/match or dismissal from the team.

Quitting a Sport

Joining a sports team should be a decision that is taken with serious consideration. When an athlete joins a team, he/she should make the commitment to complete the season. Parents, please encourage your athletes to complete the commitment to the team. If an athlete would like to quit, please encourage finishing the season, and reevaluating where or not to play the next season. All students are allowed a 2-week trial period (beginning with the scheduled 1st practice), where they may drop a sport without repercussions. If a student must quit after the 2nd week, it must be done in a proper manner.

- The reason for quitting must be told to the coach, and all equipment turned in.
- The athlete will need to meet with the athletic director before joining another sport.
- If an athlete quits more than one sport in one year, he/she may not participate in any other athletic activities until the next school year. The athletic fee will not be refunded.

Academic Responsibility

- Students are accountable for getting their assignments for all classes that will be missed before they leave for their competition.
- Students are expected to use their time wisely and study and do homework to and from games.
- Students should be ready to take tests and turn in assignments on the regularly scheduled day. It is at the teacher's discretion to give students extra time to complete assignments, etc.
- A student athlete must be in attendance at the 8 a.m. class on the day following a game or tournament. Failure to do so will constitute an unexcused absence.

Eligibility

BCS follows the "No Pass, No Play" policy for student grade averages. A failing grade would be that of a grade average of 69 or below. An athletic grading period will be reviewed beginning with the progress report during the 1st quarter. Grades will be checked each week through the quarter. Students failing any classes at the weekly grade check will be ineligible for the following week. Students failing two or more classes at the end of the quarter (report card) will be ineligible for a

two-week period. Students failing only one class at the end of the quarter will be ineligible for only one week. For the 2nd, 3rd, & 4th quarters, we will begin checking weekly eligibility after the 2nd week of the quarter.

Limits of Participation

Brazosport Christian School recognizes a difference between male and female sports. BCS offers eight female sports and eight male sports. There are sports offered each athletic season for males and females respectively. Due to this abundant offering, BCS allows for females to participate in female assigned sports and males to participate in male assigned sports. The assigned sports are as follows:

Designated Female Sports:

- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Golf
- Soccer
- Softball
- Tennis
- Track
- Volleyball

Designated Male Sports:

- Baseball
- Basketball
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf
- Soccer
- Tennis
- Track

Uniforms

Take care of your gear! The athlete will be held financially responsible for any lost or misplaced equipment. The cost of any uniform returned in a condition in which it cannot be reissued will be charged to the athlete; this includes uniforms that have been improperly laundered or cared for. The cost of any deliberate mutilation of school property will be charged to the athlete. The amount charged to any athlete will vary by sport. The athlete will be charged the full price of what the school is out for replacing their uniform. All equipment must be turned in within one week of the last contest or as directed by the coach. Report cards will be held until all uniforms are returned or replacement charges have been collected.

Scheduling

The athletic department does its best to schedule games and practices well in advance of the season. Because we cannot control league changes or changes made by an opponent when we travel to their home court/field, changes to schedules will inevitably occur.

Transportation and Travel

If a team uses a BCS vehicle, then the following guidelines will take into effect:

1. All team members are generally expected to ride with the team to and from contests. If, for some reason, you need to ride home with your parents, you must clear this with the coach before leaving for the contest, and you must give either written release, text

Brazosport Christian School Athletic Handbook 2016-2017, Revision July 25, 2016, Page 8 of 15

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message, or email from one of your parents to the coach. Under no circumstances will you be released to ride with anyone other than your parents. Exceptions to this policy would allow students to ride home from contests if the parents in attendance have plans other than returning directly home or the school from athletic contests, therefore requiring the student to travel with the family. Students would still need to clear this with the coach before leaving for the contest with a written release to the coach.

2. While traveling to and from games, students will be required to wear school uniforms or Athletic-approved clothing. (Game uniform or BCS t-shirt and warm-ups) *If an athlete is not in travel dress code, that athlete will not be allowed to travel to the contest.*
3. Students will conduct themselves properly on the school bus or in any school vehicle.
4. Students must receive permission from the coach before bringing any radios, electronic games, etc., aboard the bus. (All music, games, and videos must comply with BCS guidelines)
5. It is the responsibility of the student to be on time for all departures and to inform parents of the time to be picked up after the contest. Every effort will be made by the coaching staff to notify proper personnel as to unexpected changes in arrival times.
6. Students will not be allowed to bring parents, family members or friends on any bus trip unless permitted by the coach and bus driver. Only coaches and athletes are permitted to ride on the school bus. Managers will be allowed to ride if there are enough seats.

Hotel Policy

BCS will pay half of each room for games that are scheduled for out of town. We will have four (4) students per room, and between the 4 students they will split the other half of the room. This is only for regular season games that BCS schedules for a team.

Inclement Weather

Any changes to published schedules due to bad weather will be updated on our athletic website as soon as an affirmative decision can be made. If lightning is present during an outdoor event, all parties must be moved indoors. The event can only be resumed if 20 minutes have passed since the last visual evidence of lightning. For outdoor practices, heat and humidity are closely monitored. Where possible, practices will be scheduled in the coolest times of the day. Practices will not be held outside in a heat index of 110F or above.

Gambling

Gambling is not tolerated. Violation subjects the person(s) involved to disciplinary action.

Hazing

Hazing is defined as subjecting someone to an indignity, fright, abuse or threat and is not tolerated. Violation subjects the person(s) to disciplinary action.

Eagles Wings of Faith Booster Club

The athletic program at BCS is supported in part by gate receipts, concessions, and fundraising. The BCS Booster Club is responsible for gate keeping and concessions at all games, as well as fund-raisers approved by BCS Administration. The success of athletic fund-raisers directly benefits student athletes and their parents by allowing BCS to keep athletic fees as low as possible. Every BCS athlete is expected to participate in all Athletic Fundraisers sponsored by

the Booster Club. The student athlete's parents will be scheduled to work the gate and concessions for the games and at annual fund-raisers.

Requirements for Athletic Awards and Lettering in a Varsity Sport

1. Attendance, general attitude, sportsmanship, practice, game, and training participation, as well as participation in all athletic fundraisers are to be considered. Consideration must also include an athlete's effort to excel to the best of his or her ability.
2. In the event that a player is injured in a sport and not allowed to participate further, he or she will be entitled to an award upon the recommendation of the coach.
3. Athletes must complete the season in which they lettered in good standing.
4. With regards to letter jackets, an athlete may not order a letter jacket until he/she has completed an entire season and has fulfilled the requirements.
5. Each coach/sponsor/teacher will provide a list of eligible students to the representative letter jacket company. We will take letter jacket orders two-three times per year. After completion of the year or eligibility requirement, you will be able to place the order the next time the representative letter jacket company comes to the campus to take orders.

I hereby acknowledge that I have read, understand, and promise to adhere to the procedures included in the Brazosport Christian School Athletic Handbook and am fully aware that failure to adhere to these policies could result in removal from the Brazosport Athletic Program.

Parent Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

ATHLETIC POLICIES FOR SPIRIT SQUADS

Purpose

The BCS Spirit Squads will strive to glorify Christ by pursuing athletic excellence, spiritual growth, servant leadership, and promoting school spirit. Participation in the Spirit Squads at BCS is a unique position. We will learn to be under authority as well as in authority. We will be out in the community serving and performing throughout the year. Each event also serves as advertisement for our school. Each member must conduct themselves in a Christlike manner at all times.

General Eligibility

- Student must be registered at BCS for the upcoming year and current on tuition payments.
- Student must meet minimum academic requirements. Student must not be on academic or conduct probation or removed from the squad the previous year. Anyone who has been removed from the squad will not be allowed to tryout again for a year. All athletic/spirit forms must be signed and completed. A new physical is required each year. More paper work will follow at the Camp Meeting.
- Student must attend summer camp, and any scheduled events during the summer. No additions to the squads will be made after summer camps have taken place unless approved by the Spirit Director.
- Student must agree to comply with the Spirit Squad Discipline Document.
- All final decisions rest with the Fine Arts Director and the Head of School.

Varsity Captain Selection

- Complete two (2) years on the varsity squad.
- Shows themselves as a leader.
- Completes all forms, including extra forms for the captains.
- Must create on Chant, one Cheer, and one Music routine with all requirements needed for tryouts. This will be their tryout time.
- Captains will be selected by the current varsity cheer squad. The Coaches of the Spirit Squad and Fine Arts Director will have the final say in who is eligible to run for captain.

Junior High Captain Selection

- Complete at least one year in Jr. High squad.
- Shows themselves as a leader.
- Captains will be selected by the Coaches of the Spirit Squad and Fine Arts Director.

EXPECTATIONS OF A SPIRIT SQUAD MEMBER

Participation in the Spirit Squads at BCS is a unique position. We will be out in the community serving and performing throughout the year. Each event also serves as advertisement for our school. Each member must conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner at all times.

Junior High Spirit Squad members will perform at all home football games and pep rallies. Participation in out of town games will be decided after the game schedule is set. JH Cheerleaders will perform at all home basketball games.

Varsity Spirit Squad members will perform at all home football and basketball games as well as out of town games, pep rallies, and special performances. Varsity Cheerleaders will have a key role in creating and executing pep rallies.

Mascot

- To be selected by the Fine Arts Director, and Coaches of the Spirit Squads.
- Responsible for storage and care of the uniform during the season.
- Cleaning costs will be covered by Athletic program.
- Responsible for having it at the games and pep rallies.
- Mascot will need assistance from a friend or parent.

Cheer Captain(s)

- Responsible for routines at games, pep rallies, special events etc. as well as help lead practice sessions. Jr. High captains may require assistance from their coaches in creating routines.
- They will call cheers and stunts at the game and help keep the squad focused.
- Serve as a communicator between the coaches and the squad.
- They will help run practices as well as develop and execute pep rallies and special events of which the Spirit Squads are needed.

RULES OF CONDUCT

- All squads must be able to meet all requirements of the Athletic handbook, Student handbook as well as the following:
- Strive to exhibit Christ like behavior and positive image at all times. Failure to commit to this may forfeit the opportunity to participate in the Spirit Program.
- Must demonstrate leadership at all times as well as have a good relationship with the school staff, faculty etc.
- Attend and participate at practices, games, pep rallies, and special events with a positive, cheerful, and cooperative attitude.
- All forms of social media must be kept clear of matters pertaining to the subject of: sex, alcohol, profanity, or anything that could misrepresent themselves or BCS.
- Coaches and Captains must have full access to all social media outlets during the school year.
- Must be on time to all activities and dressed in appropriate attire, including injured team members. Injured team members must provide a doctor's note as stated in the Handbook.
- All squad members are responsible for learning any material missed due to absences or injuries. Student may be asked to not participate in the upcoming event if the coach feels the student does not know the routine.

- During games, squad members must stand at attention and focus on the game. They must refrain from talking to each other as well as spectators. No one but the Captain(s) will call the cheers and give directions for positions, stunts, side line dances, tumbling etc.
- Uniforms are **not to be worn in public** after games, pep rallies, and other activities.
- Please eat before arriving to a game. There is no gum, food, or drinks on the field except water. No food should be eaten in the uniform that could stain it. The students are financially responsible for the care of their uniform.
- No stretching or practicing in front of the crowd
- Squad members must stay with their squad before, during, and after each activity until dismissed by coaches.
- All squad members must participate in all fundraising events chosen by their squad.
- All squad members are expected to perform in any special events or performances.

Travel

- Students must have a ride to and from practices and home games at times stated.
- Squads will travel together as a team to out of town games and special events. Transportation will be designated by the school.
- Parents will occasionally provide transportation for the squads but they must have the appropriate forms on file at the school. If more than one vehicle is used, the drivers will travel in a caravan.
- Squads will return to a specified area after the event in the same designated vehicle unless written permission by parents/guardians has been given to the coach PRIOR to the event.
- Students can only be released to another parent that is listed on the appropriate form. No student will be released to another student.
- No student will be released to anyone under the age of 25.

Equipment

- Spirit Team members will help with the setup and take down of the equipment needed for each event.
- Uniforms must be properly laundered.
- Any items lost will be replaced at the cost of the individual team member.

Player expense

The cost of being on a Spirit Team is different each year.

Special events

When an invitation is issued for any of the Spirit Squad's to attend a special event, all school rules will apply.

Competitions

- Jr. High cheerleaders may participate in competitions if approved by the Coaches of the Spirit Squad, the Fine Arts Director, and the Head of School.
- Varsity Cheerleaders: If competition opportunities arise, members will be selected by the Fine Arts Director and Coaches of the Spirit Squad to fit the needs required.

Fundraisers

Varsity Squads will hold a limited amount of fundraisers as needed throughout the season. Fundraisers must be approved by administration.

Mission projects

Each Squad should participate in a mission project each year. The Service Coordinator, Coaches of the Spirit Squad, and the Fine Arts Director will select the project.

Leadership

- Administration and Athletic Director have the final authority of Spirit Squad activities, dress code, etc.
- Non-Christian music must be approved by the appropriate Administrator.

Demerit system/ grading policy

Each coach will have a written grading policy or Demerit System pertaining to class, practices, and games.

Coaches

- The Fine Arts Director and Administration are responsible for the selection of the coaches.
- Coaches are responsible to the Fine Arts Director.
- At least one coach per cheerleading squad must be AACCA certified for stunting.
- Coaches may be teachers, parents, or volunteers

Fine Arts Director

- The Fine Arts Director is selected by the Head of School.
- The FAD may also serve as a coach.
- The FAD works with the coaches to organize performances for pep rallies and games.
- The Head of School has final authority in decisions regarding the spirit squads with regard to the athletic and spirit squad policies.

SPIRIT SQUAD DISCIPLINE POLICY

Benching

1. The student may be benched upon not being in compliance with any part of the Cheerleading handbook, the BCS Student handbook, and the BCS Athletic handbook. A Full Bench is when the student is removed from the said activity because of non-compliance. They are to come dressed in performance attire but they will sit with the coaches through the entirety of the activity. A Partial Bench is the same as a Full Bench but the student will sit out the 1st half of the activity.
2. An unexcused absence, tardy, or leaving early from a practice, or event may result in a Partial Bench from the next activity. (Detention or ISS will be unexcused)
3. Late arrival to a game will result in a Partial Bench.
4. An unexcused absence from a game or pep rally will result in a Full Bench from the next activity.
5. Issues with disrespect or insubordination to those in authority including captains/co-captains may result in a Full Bench.

Probation

1. Probation is when a student has received 2 Full Benches.
2. When a student is placed on Probation parents will be notified.
3. Probation is equivalent of 2 complete games.
4. Any cheerleader found repeatedly accompanying others who are using drugs or alcohol may be placed on cheer probation. This is the equivalent of 2 benches.

Dismissal

1. Students using drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or participating in sexual activity may be automatically dismissed from the squad.
2. Students found cheating, stealing, using foul language, or skipping classes may be removed from the squad.
3. Students that repeatedly have Social Media issues dealing with drugs, alcohol, sex, or profanity may result in being removed from the squad.
4. Any student placed on Probation will be subject to dismissal upon a 3rd bench.
5. Final decisions rest with the Fine Arts Director and the Head of School.

Parent Signature:_____

Student Signature:_____