

## **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY POLICY**

Beaver River has adopted a new academic eligibility policy. It is the obligation of all coaches and parents to work cooperatively with teachers to encourage each athlete to do his/her best academically. It will be the coaches' responsibility to make sure that each athlete meets the criteria set forth in the academic policy. The eligibility form will be printed on green stock card with black ink. You may pick up these forms in the Athletic Director's office.

The Beaver River Central School District maintains high academic standards for all of its students. The Academic Eligibility Policy applies to all students in all athletic activities. A student's academic standing is reviewed every five weeks, using both the 10-week Grade Report and the 5-week Progress Report unless a student is restricted or ineligible at that time then see below for specifics.

### **Eligible**

Students who are passing with a 65 average in all courses on their reports are considered eligible; they are able to fully participate in all athletic activities without restriction. A student athlete must be a bona fide student of the Beaver River Central School District and must be taking at least four subjects, including Physical Education.

### **Probationary**

Students who are failing one course on their reports are considered Probationary; these students may continue practicing and competing/performing with their team. The student is required to complete a Weekly Eligibility Card to ensure he/she continues to meet eligibility requirements. This serves as a check of the student's grades. The student is strongly encouraged to attend the After-School Work study.

### **Restricted**

Students who are failing two courses on the reports are considered restricted; these students may continue practicing with their team. These students are not allowed to compete with the team until such a time as their grades are passing. Restricted students must attend the After-School Work study sessions for the rest of the marking period. A restricted student will be required to complete a Weekly Eligibility Card every week thereafter. If teacher(s) indicate he/she is passing all courses, or that student is putting forth considerable effort to improve his/her academic performance, the student will be able to fully participate for each week he/she maintains passing grades.

### **Ineligible**

If a student fails three or more courses, they may not practice or compete until such time that he/she reach a restricted or probationary status. He/she may not attend any practices, contests, or events for the team at home. Ineligible students must attend the After-School Work study sessions and complete the Weekly Eligibility Card every week until such time as they regain eligibility, then they may rejoin practice sessions and contests/games. The card serves only as a check of the student's progress and does not entitle him/her to any temporary change in eligibility status. A student's parent/guardian may file an appeal on behalf of the child if they believe extenuating circumstances contributed to the failures.

### **Weekly Eligibility Card**

Cards are available from the Athletic Director's office. Students who are listed as Probationary, Restricted, or Ineligible must obtain this card by Thursday. They must request that each of their classroom teachers indicate if they are passing or failing at that point in time. The student must then return the card with all signatures to their coach by 12:00 p.m. on Friday for verification of their status for the week. Eligibility will run from Monday to Monday of the following week. Failure to complete the weekly card places the student on Ineligible status until the card is completed. It is the coach's responsibility to check to see if the student is eligible to participate in practices or competitions.

Guidance will cooperate in this endeavor by checking sports' rosters against grade indexes and forwarding this information to applicable coach.

### **Notification**

The Director of Physical Education will be the only one authorized to permanently remove a student athlete from a roster.

### **Fall Eligibility**

All students who are Restricted/Ineligible at the end of the school year will begin the following school year on a restricted status unless course failures are made up over the summer. A student may go to a probationary status to participate.

### **Appeal Process**

Parents/Guardians, coaches or youth advocates of students who fail a course(s) and become ineligible as a result may appeal their student's status if they believe extenuating circumstances caused that failure. The appeal is due five school days after the student is notified of his/her status by the coach. The appeal will be heard by an Appeals Board consisting of a building administrator, the Athletic Director, the applicable coach, and the student's guidance counselor. The entire Appeals Board must be present during this procedure. It will be the role of the student to explain the extenuating circumstances involved in the ineligibility. A written appeal may be made to the Superintendent of Schools, no more than five days after notification of the decision. The Superintendent may affirm, in whole or in part, a decision of Appeals Board.

An appeal of this decision may then be taken to the Board of Education who may affirm, in whole or in part, a decision of the Superintendent. This appeal must take place no more than five school days after they are notified of the Superintendent's decision.

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