

Brackett ISD



Extracurricular Handbook 2026-2027

Statement of Philosophy

The District believes that extracurricular activities afford students opportunities to develop leadership, interpersonal skills, and citizenship skills. A variety of extracurricular programs exist in the form of clubs, teams, and performing groups. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. Because students represent their school and the District in highly visible positions in elected offices and/or appointed positions in which they perform, participate, or compete, these students are viewed as role models. The demands and responsibilities require participants to commit time and effort while maintaining high standards of conduct. Activities include but are not limited to: Academic competitions, Athletics, Band, Cheer, Color Guard, FFA, National Honor Society, One Act Play, and STUCO.

Definition of Extracurricular Activities

An extracurricular activity is an activity sponsored by the UIL, the Board, or an organization sanctioned by Board resolution. The activity is not necessarily directly related to instruction of the essential knowledge and skills but may have an indirect relation to some areas of the curriculum.

Extracurricular activities include public performances (except as described below), contests, demonstrations, displays, and club activities. In addition, an activity is subject to this policy if any one of the following criteria applies:

1. The activity is competitive;
2. The activity is held in conjunction with another activity that is considered extracurricular;
3. The activity is held off-campus, except in a case in which adequate facilities do not exist on campus;
4. The general public is invited; or an admission is charged.

A student ineligible to participate in an extracurricular activity, but who is enrolled in a state-approved course that requires demonstration of the mastery of the essential knowledge and skills in a public performance, may participate in the performance if:

1. The performance is one to which the general public is invited; and
2. The requirement for student participation in public is stated in the essential knowledge and skills of the course.

Individual Activity Standards and Rules

In cooperation with the campus administration, activity coaches/directors are authorized to develop individual activity standards and rules related to activity participation for minor infractions or offenses identified as “General Conduct Violations.” A student’s participation in a particular extracurricular activity is conditioned upon the student’s compliance with the requirements and standards of behavior set forth in the individual extracurricular activity regulations, the **BISD Student Code of Conduct**, and **Extracurricular Handbook**. The program sponsor in cooperation with the campus administration has the authority to develop the specific guidelines for membership within their individual extracurricular activity regulations. **The guidelines and expectations outlined in the handbooks must be followed throughout the entire calendar year, not just the academic year. This includes all breaks including summer.**

Agreement to Comply

Participants who meet UIL and BISD eligibility requirements and are selected to represent a BISD school extracurricular program agree to comply with the behavior guidelines as set forth in the **BISD Student Code of Conduct**, **Extracurricular Handbook**, **Student Handbook**, and the individual

extracurricular program requirements. **As well as comply with grading policies and state eligibility requirements.**

Tryout Procedure

Tryout procedures and the calendar for the various extracurricular activities are determined by the individual activity directors, campus principal, and coaches in accordance with BISD guidelines. Upon completion of the tryout procedure, if any, for the extracurricular activity, the sponsor will notify all participants of their membership status. The results of tryout procedures are final and cannot be appealed. Tryouts will be at the beginning of the season and are subject to change based on coaches' evaluations and athlete performance.

Dress and Grooming

Students who participate in extracurricular activities shall comply with the District's policy on student dress and grooming and the coach/director's specific requirements for the activity. These standards may impose restrictions or standards that are more rigorous than the district-wide dress and grooming standards.

Drug Testing

To be eligible to participate in any school sponsored extracurricular activity, a secondary student (9th-12th grade and 8th grade band students) shall agree to participate in a drug-testing program that includes a mandatory test of all participants at the beginning of the school year and random testing during the school year. – see policy FNF(local)

Fees, Equipment, Uniforms

Students must care for District-issued equipment as if it were their own. Equipment must be properly stored in the proper location and shall be kept clean and maintained.

Students who lose or damage District equipment will be charged for it.

All District equipment must be returned at the end of the season or school year, as directed by the coach/director. Exceptions would be for musical instruments issued to the student over the summer.

Student-owned equipment is the sole responsibility of the student; BISD will not be responsible for any loss or damage that occurs to student-owned equipment.

If uniforms are required for an activity/organization, the student shall be required to ensure that the uniform is worn only at appropriate times and is neat and clean for the practice, performance, competition, or game/tournament. A fee for the maintenance, dry cleaning, or laundering of the uniform may be collected.

Travel

Students who have the opportunity to travel in connection with the BISD extracurricular activity/organization are representatives of the District and must exhibit exemplary behavior at all times. The BISD Student Code of Conduct is applicable and enforced during all extracurricular travel and activities. District officials may search all luggage and carry-on items for contraband prior to departing for travel to the activity. Travel to any activity that requires an overnight stay will require all luggage and carry-on items to be searched prior to departure. Failure to comply with a search will result in non participation in that activity/trip and consequences for not participating will be enforced. Students who

dress or behave inappropriately while traveling to or from a BISD activity may be suspended or removed from the activity or organization, depending upon the nature of the misconduct.

Travel is an extension to the school day; however the communication device policy is modified during student travel for students participating in extracurricular activities. During student travel searches, a communication device that is off and stored will not be confiscated, but it must remain off and stored during the school day hours during travel. Once students arrive at the extracurricular event and have exited the bus, the coach or sponsor may, at their discretion, allow students to use their communication devices during tournaments, meets, competitions, or other activities that occur during school hours. However, there are acceptable use expectations. Failure to follow acceptable use expectations as per the code of conduct may result in disciplinary action.

All students who participate in school-sponsored trips are required to ride in transportation provided by the school to and from the event. Students may be released to a parent or other adult specified by a parent prior to the end of the trip if the parent has submitted a request. Forms may be found online or picked up in the Secondary office.

If travel consists of a combination of boys and girls, separation of the opposite sex will take place. Ex: boys in the back of the bus, girls in the front of the bus.

Students involved in travel shall:

- Be on time for all trips;
- Dress neatly and in compliance with the District dress and grooming code; unless otherwise approved and/or required by the sponsor/coach
- Be on their best behavior in restaurants and hotels;
- Care for any equipment assigned to the student and return it to the proper location upon return to the school;
- Be on their best behavior while on the bus or other vehicle; and
- Promptly obey all instructions given by the coach/director or any adult chaperone.

General Rules of Conduct

Students who participate in extracurricular activities shall comply with the Student Handbook, Code of Conduct, Extracurricular Handbook as well as the following rules at all times.

Students who participate in extracurricular activities shall:

- Show respect for all officials and staff.
- Participate in every practice, competition, performance, game, tournament, and event required by the coach/director, unless the coach/director has granted an excused absence.
- Arrive promptly, properly attired, for every practice, competition, game, tournament, etc., unless the coach/director has granted an excused absence/tardy.
- Adhere to the grooming standards established by the individual activity sponsor's regulations.
- Demonstrate a sportsmanlike behavior.
- Demonstrate a positive attitude.
- Be polite to others.
- Exemplify honesty in all school work.
- Exemplify superior conduct in all classes.
- Exemplary Attendance in school and get to class on time.

Attendance

Students engaged in extracurricular activities are expected to participate in all practices, performances, competitions, games, tournaments, and other events identified by the coach/director. The coach/director will identify times for required practices, performances, competitions, games, tournaments, etc., at the start of each semester or at the beginning of the activity season. The coach/director has the discretion to modify the schedule as needed.

If an absence must occur the student must contact the **sponsor/coach/director** as soon as they know they will not be in attendance.

School Day Attendance

Unless extenuating circumstances exist, students shall be in attendance at school before, during and after any extracurricular event/activity. Students must be in attendance during the day of practice or to participate in an extracurricular activity that day/night. Students must be in attendance the day after an event starting the first period of the day.

The following rules for attendance apply for all extracurricular activities:

1. A minimum of **4 class periods** must be attended in order to compete in an event/activity that same day
2. Students must be in attendance 4 class periods the Friday before a weekend in order to participate in an event/activity
3. Students must be in attendance the day after an event/activity starting with the first period of the day. Students not in attendance the following day will NOT be allowed to participate in the next competitive event/activity for any extracurricular activity. Ex: the next game, performance, competition
4. Students must be in attendance the day before leaving for an out of town activity or they will not be allowed to travel. Ex: leaving early in the morning for an event you must have been in attendance the day before
5. A note for any absence must be turned into the proper coach/director/sponsor - this is in addition to the copy the office needs (which copies can be made)
6. Absences for extenuating circumstances must be reported prior to the absence and must accompany a note after the absence in order to continue participation
7. In order to be eligible for extracurricular travel, students must maintain compliance with the 90% compulsory attendance requirement (can not owe Saturday school).

Extenuating circumstances include the following:

1. Illness - doctor's note includes - dentist/eye doctor/medical doctor
2. Funeral - family death - note
3. Religious circumstances - note

Absences before, during or after an event/activity may only be excused with a note or proper documentation for one of the above reasons. Again, students **MUST** notify their coach/sponsor/director prior to or during the absence **UNLESS** it is an emergency.

Failure to comply with attendance rules may result in not competing, practicing, or participating in the next competitive competition for the event the student has been absent. Excessive absences may result in suspension or dismissal from the activity/organization. Such decisions shall be made in

consultation with the director/sponsor and the campus principal.

Students under a doctor's care for an injury are expected to attend any practice, performance, competition, or other event relating to the activity/organization but will be allowed to participate only to the extent authorized by written order of the student's physician.

Students/Parents should make every effort to schedule health care appointments at times that will not interfere with school or extracurricular activity participation. If a conflict is unavoidable, the student shall inform the coach/director prior to the appointment and provide written documentation, acceptable to the coach/director, of the appointment.

Extracurricular Activity Conflicts Activities Sponsored by BISD

In the case of a conflict between BISD-sponsored student activities, extracurricular or otherwise, coaches/directors will work together to accommodate the student so that the student may participate in all activities to the extent possible. UIL and other BISD-sponsored performances or competitions will take precedence over clinics and/or practices. Students involved in multiple BISD-sponsored activities shall not be penalized by a grade reduction or limitation on further participation based upon such a conflict.

Activities Sponsored by Outside Organizations

In the case of a conflict between BISD-sponsored student activities and student activities sponsored by outside organizations, UIL and other BISD-sponsored performances, competition, clinics and/or practices will take precedence over the activity sponsored by the outside organization. Absences or tardies to BISD extracurricular activities due to schedule conflicts with activities sponsored by outside organizations will be unexcused. Consequences for unexcused absences or tardies due to participation in outside organizations will be enforced at the discretion of the BISD coach/director and the campus principal.

Disciplinary Infractions and Loss of Extracurricular Privileges

The demands and responsibilities require participants to commit time and effort while maintaining high standards of conduct. Students participating in extracurricular activities are expected to adhere to an even higher standard of behavior and conduct thus additional rules and regulations have been set. In addition to obeying rules set forth in the **BISD Student Code of Conduct, Extracurricular Handbook** and **Student Handbook** the following will take place:

Discipline Techniques

Discipline yourself, so others won't have to...

Each situation may require a different type of discipline. Whatever type of discipline is required, the purpose is to help students improve themselves and to become better. Failure to accept this on the part of the student or parent/guardian may result in dismissal from the team and/or program. The different discipline techniques listed below may be used alone or in combination for Student Code of Conduct and non-Student Code of Conduct violations. The listing is not intended to be a list of progressive sanctions.

- *Oral/ verbal corrections
- *Counseling by coaches/sponsors
- *Parent conference
- *Behavioral contracts
- *Detentions

- *Saturday school
- *Withdrawal of privileges, identified by individual coach and sport
- *Dismissal from team or program
- *Loss of participation
- *Additional exercises, running, or other activities as coach/sponsor sees fit
- *Removal from program

Electronic Communication:

Social Media/Public Posts/Texting/Social Bullying

Social networking websites and electronic communication: Maintaining a higher standard of conduct will also include ensuring that BISD's extracurricular participants' personal electronic communication is appropriate. The internet is a worldwide, publicly accessible form of communication. Any communication including, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, photo sharing, or inappropriate texting that is published or appearing on the internet, is public domain even if it is marked private.

Extracurricular participants are responsible for texting and electronic communications through their personal sites, as well as postings on other students' sites. The areas of inappropriateness will include, but are not limited to, language (abbreviated or alluding to negative, lewd, vulgar, or obscene comments), pictures, suggestive poses, clothing, references to gang culture, references to alcohol, drugs, and tobacco.

Communication on the internet or by electronic means by extracurricular participants that is published and as a result causes disruption or damage to school district property are also inappropriate. Any member of the BISD extracurricular program who is involved in inappropriate, disruptive, negative, lewd, obscene, pictures of a graphic or sexual nature, or comments on any social media networks will result in disciplinary action and/or suspension or dismissal from the program.

Hazing/Bullying/Harassing/Assaulting:

Hazing is any intentional, knowing, or reckless act directed against a student, by an individual or group, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members include other students.

Any form of bullying and/or hazing means engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that occurs on school property, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or in a District-operated vehicle. Bullying occurs when a student or group of students engages in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that occurs on school property, at a school sponsored or school-related activity, or in a vehicle operated by the District and that:

- Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property; or
- Is sufficiently severe, persistent, and pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.

This conduct is considered bullying if it:

- Exploits an imbalance of power between the student perpetrator and the student victim through written or verbal expression or physical conduct; and
- Interferes with a student's education or substantially disrupts the operation of a school. Bullying of a student may include hazing, threats, taunting, teasing, confinement, assault, demands for

money, destruction of property, theft of valued possessions, name calling, rumor spreading, or ostracism.

No student or school employee shall engage in any form of hazing, nor encourage or assist any other person in hazing. Acts of hazing and failure to report hazing can result in criminal penalties and school discipline. If the BISD administration determines that the offense is hazing, the athlete or athletes involved will be suspended from extracurricular programs for one calendar year. (FNCC Legal) (FNCC Local)

Harassment is defined in the Student Code of Conduct as annoying or bothering someone persistently and/or constantly. Under some circumstances, a single act can constitute harassment.

Assault is defined by the Student Code of Conduct as conduct that intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes bodily injury to another, intentionally or knowingly threatens another with imminent bodily injury, or causes physical contact with another when the person knows or should reasonably believe that the other will regard the contact as offensive or proactive. (Defined under Texas Penal Code Section 22.01.)

Any student that harasses, assaults, bullies, and/or hazes another student during the school day will forfeit their right to participate until they have completed 15 miles of cumulative running or equivalent and will be suspended from participating in an extracurricular contest for six weeks. If the said action occurs outside of school hours and/or off campus, then the head coach, Athletic Director, and/or sponsor must be notified immediately. If a student does not make his or her coach/sponsor aware of the offense, then as a department, they cannot help to remedy the situation.

If the infraction occurs when the student is out of season, they will complete the cumulative running or equivalent, but the individual cannot participate in his or her next sport/activity until the six weeks suspension has concluded.

Incriminating Photos/Videos/Statements

Incriminating photos, videos or statements depicting any of the following will result in disciplinary action, up to and possibly including removal from the team/squad:

- 1) violence
- 2) hazing
- 3) prohibited harassment (based on race, religion, national origin, disability, gender)
- 4) lewdness including full or partial nudity
- 5) inappropriate or profane gestures
- 6) vandalism
- 7) stalking
- 8) selling, possessing, or use of alcohol
- 9) selling, possessing, or using a controlled substance
- 10) any other criminal act or act punishable by law

Public Display of Affection

Public display of affection is defined as the physical demonstration of affection for another person while in the view of others. This includes kissing, french kissing, as well as hugging for long periods of time and lying on each other. Any and all inappropriate displays of affection on campus are prohibited.

Common sense shall prevail in the determination of excessive PDA.

With the Exception of Drugs, Alcohol and vaping, the actions below are followed: **Behaviors resulting in In-School Suspension**

Disciplinary action as outlined below represents the **minimum** consequences that may be administered.

Any student removed from the regular educational setting and assigned to In-School Suspension, shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities as outlined below (including practices, which will have to be made up):

1st Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for the term of the ISS.

2nd Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for a full calendar week.

3rd Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for 2 full calendar weeks.

Behaviors resulting in Out-of-School Suspension from School

Disciplinary action as outlined below represents the **minimum** consequences that may be administered. Any student suspended from school shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities as outlined below (including practices, which must be made up):

1st Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for a full calendar week.

2nd Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for 2 full calendar weeks.

3rd Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for 21 school calendar days.

*If a student is cleared from out of school suspension due to an investigation, administration has the discretion to return the student to immediate participation in the extracurricular activities.

Behaviors resulting in Disciplinary AEP Assignment (Mandatory or Discretionary)

Disciplinary action as outlined below represents the **minimum** consequences that may be administered. Any student removed from the regular educational setting and assigned to DAEP shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities and attending any school event as outlined below (including practices, which must be made up):

1st Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities and attending any school event for 21 full calendar days.

2nd Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities and attending any school event for the remainder of the school year.

3rd Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for one school calendar year.

Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco/Vapes/E-cigarettes

All student-athletes will be subject to a drug screening prior to school year beginning. If a student fails to or refuses to test prior to his/her activity/sport, they will be denied the privilege of participating. Subsequently, there will be random tests throughout the school year. See BISD Drug Testing Policy. Use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or vapes will not be condoned. This includes, but not limited to being found guilty or pleading guilty for Minor in Possession, Minor in Consumption, Driving While Intoxicated and Under the Influence, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, etc. A plea of "No Contest" is considered a guilty plea. Any citation or arrests that occur on or off campus in regards to the aforementioned must be brought to the attention of the coach/sponsor/administrator immediately. Failure to notify may result in dismissal from the program. Consequences may be imposed at any time during the extracurricular season, beginning on the District's initial drug testing date (regardless of whether an

individual is tested on that date) and continuing through the end of the academic calendar year.

Consequences (including positive testing/off campus offenses):

1st Offense- Suspension from any extracurricular activity for ~~30 calendar~~ 15 school days, during which they are not permitted to practice or attend any school event.

2nd Offense- Suspension from any extracurricular activity for ~~60 calendar~~ 30 school days, during which they are not permitted to practice or attend any school event.

3rd Offense- Suspension from any extracurricular activity for ~~180 calendar days~~, during which they are not permitted to practice or attend any school event.

3rd Offense- Removal from the athletic program for the remainder of his or her high school career.

**NOTE- If a student is a one-sport athlete or one extracurricular activity, their suspension will follow him/her to the following sport or following school year. Also, if the offense(s) occur in the summer, the consequences will begin during the first week of competition.*

Behavior Outside School's Ordinary Jurisdiction

Any student who participates in a BISD extracurricular activity and who is involved in an off-campus situation that results in substantial disruption or a reasonable forecast of substantial disruption to campus operations or activities and that involves possessing, sending, forwarding, posting, accessing or displaying electronic messages that are illegal, abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, may be subject to disciplinary actions within their extracurricular organization in addition to consequences, **if any**, in accordance with the **Student Handbook** and **Student Code of Conduct**. Furthermore, arrest or citation for drug, alcohol, weapon, or violent offenses or any felony offense may result in disciplinary actions within their extracurricular organization in addition to consequences, **if any**, in accordance with the **Student Handbook** and **Student Code of Conduct**.

Transfer Students

Nonresident transfer students or students moving into BISD from another school district who wish to participate in extracurricular activities in BISD will have their disciplinary records from the previous district reviewed and may be ineligible for participation pending records request is fulfilled.

Academic Eligibility

A student in grades 9-12 may participate in extracurricular activities on or off campus at the beginning of the school year only if the student has earned the cumulative number of credits in state-approved courses.

Freshmen must successfully complete the 8th grade and be promoted to High School.

Sophomores - start of year have earned 5 credits

Juniors - start of year have earned 10 credits during the past 12 months

Seniors - start of year have earned 15 credits during the past 12 months

Junior High students must be promoted to the 7th or 8th grade, otherwise they will be ineligible for the first 6 weeks grading period.

A student participating in UIL activities will be suspended from participation in activities, events, and/or

games after a grading period in which the student received a grade lower than a 70 in any academic class. This suspension continues for 3 weeks. The grades will be reviewed at the end of the three-week period. See Eligibility Calendar for dates to lose or gain eligibility.

If a student in extracurricular activities fails 2 eligibility grade reports they can be removed for the remainder of the academic school year. To be eligible to return the following year- the student-athlete must pass the remaining grade reporting periods during said school year.

All students required to remain academically eligible to participate. Remember “No Pass-No Play”.

Repeated academic suspensions may result in dismissal from the team.

* Dual credit course grades are not included in academic eligibility. .

Managers

Student managers must be a member of the activity/event/sport, and must comply with all rules and regulations for that activity. Ex: Athletic managers **MUST** be an active member of the athletic program.

Lettering Policy

Participants who letter in UIL academic events at the district level and beyond are eligible for a patch or jacket, according to UIL guidelines. To letter, participants must garner points for our school, based on participation, practice, and level attained in competition.

UIL Academics

Student Expectations:

1. will attend scheduled practices and competitions.
2. will notify the coach of any conflict with a practice or a competition well in advance.
3. will be in school on time the day after a competition.
4. will do their best in all classes so as to achieve passing grades and to remain eligible to compete in UIL events.
5. will abide by Brackett Secondary school rules and policies.
6. will put in personal time at home to study, practice, and/or rehearse for competitions.
7. will use a planner, calendar, or some organizational tool in order to keep up with all in-class and extra- curricular assignments and activities.
8. will listen to the ideas, suggestions, instructions, and directions of their coaches.
9. will address any concerns/issues directly with your coach by setting up an appointment with your coach and following through with a respectful attitude.

Coach Expectations:

1. will attend scheduled practices and competitions.
2. will notify students of any conflict with a practice or competition - before the scheduled event.
3. will supply practice tests and contest supplies, as needed.
4. will periodically check on the eligibility status of students in order to maintain our school's UIL eligibility and reputation for excellence.
5. will listen to the ideas and suggestions of students.
6. will address any concerns/issues directly with students by setting up an appointment with them and following through with a respectful attitude.

Contest Expectations:

1. Practice meets cost money. If you tell your coach you will attend, a fee is paid for you to attend and compete in that event (or in several events). You will need to pay if you do not compete, and some schools add on “drop” fees, which you will be required to pay back, in addition to what we

have already paid for you to compete.

2. Participants are to show up on time and ride the bus to the event. However, due to the nature of the academic meets, you do not have to stay all day. Your parent may pick you up from the event location with written notice signed by your parent and provided by you prior to boarding the bus. No student will be released with anyone other than your parent, unless previously arranged with an administrator and written notice is provided to the academic coordinator prior to the event.
3. Conflicts in Activities: An individual student who attempts to participate in several extra-curricular activities will undoubtedly be in a position of a conflict of obligations. We are proud of you for your interest and will support your right to be involved in numerous activities, but we encourage you to schedule events in a manner to minimize conflicts. As a high school student, you have the responsibility to do everything you can to avoid continuous conflicts. This would include being cautious about participating in too many activities where conflicts are bound to happen. It also means immediately notifying the academic and athletic coaches involved in order for all of you to work out a solution. If a solution cannot be found, the principal and your coaches will make the decision based on the following:

- *the relative importance of the event (for example, a district event takes precedence over a practice meet; a bi-district event takes precedence over a district one.)
- *the importance of each event to the student
- *the relative contribution the student can make
- *how long each event has been scheduled

Once the decision has been made and the student has followed the decision, he/she will not be penalized in any way by either academic or athletic coach.

TILF Scholarship:

Academic UIL students who compete in one of the Academic UIL State meet contests may apply for the Texas Interscholastic League Foundation scholarship during their Senior year. Additionally information regarding this scholarship may be obtained from the Academic UIL Coordinator.

Athletics

BISD APPROACH TO ATHLETICS

Every one of you wants to start on a team. Unfortunately, not all of you will. The coaching staff must determine who will start. Consequently, we feel it is important for you to understand how we will decide on depth charts as the athlete progresses.

The following five points will be:

1. **Knowledge of Assignments**: We cannot and will not play athletes who do not know their assignments. Your coach will spend extra time with you if you so desire. Everyone can and should know their assignments.
2. **Hustle and Effort**: Everyone will be expected to give 100% at all times. Your teammates will be giving 100% and they will expect you to do so also. Extra effort wins games. Everyone can and should give 100%.
3. **Mental Toughness**: All athletes will be challenged mentally during their season, as well as off-season. ALL athletes can improve their mental toughness. Athletics is intended to be rigorous and not to be a glorified physical education class.
4. **Contribution to the Overall Team**: The individual who motivates their teammates to do better, is always enthusiastic and ready, will make a greater contribution than the one who does not possess this quality. The athlete who hates to lose is an invaluable player.

Everyone wants to win, but what we are looking for are people who can't live with losing. **Talent**: If the above four characteristics are equal, and they should be, then the athlete who has the most talent, makes the big plays, will start. However, talent will not enter into our evaluation until we look closely at the first four qualities. Obviously, if you are injured, it will be difficult for us to evaluate you.

We will give every athlete an opportunity to earn a position on our team. It's our desire to play as many people as possible, but obviously we cannot play everyone. The above information is provided so that you will know exactly how we will evaluate you. Our best athletes will lead us to a championship. Our main concern is to be as fair as possible with you and to be truly honest. If you do not feel that you are being treated fairly, see your coach. In the event you are still not satisfied, then come see the Head Coach. We are here for the same reasons you are:

1. **See that you get an education and a diploma**
2. **See that you mature and grow as a man or a woman**
3. **See that you have the best team possible**

Explanation of Athletics

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

Communication you should expect from your child's coach:

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Locations and times of practices and games
3. Team requirements, e.g., practices, special equipment, out-of-season conditioning

Communication coaches expect from parents:

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

As your children become involved in the programs at BISD, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child would like. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged. Examples of these situations include the treatment of your child, ways to help your child improve, concerns about your child's attitude, or academic support.

It is very difficult to accept your child not playing as much, when, or where you may desire. It will be the coach's discretion to make all decisions about playing time or position for individual students-athletes, regardless of the score of the game or the personal feelings of the student-athlete's parents.

Coaches are professionals. They make judgments 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. Other things should be left to the discretion of the coach. **Examples include: Team strategy, other student-athletes, playing time, etc.**

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are encouraged. It is important the both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. **There will not be a conference regarding playing time without the student-athlete and coach present.**

When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote resolution:

1. Call the coach to set up an appointment
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic office. A meeting will be set up for you.
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.

If the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, the next step is to set up an appointment with the Athletic Director.

Since research indicates that a student involved in extracurricular activities has greater success in adulthood, the athletic 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.

BISD ATHLETICS

According to University Interscholastic League rules, **BEING IN ATHLETICS IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT.** Only those students who abide by school and athletic policies will be allowed to represent BISD.

When young men and young women sign up for athletics and become a member of a team, they make a commitment. They are obligated to follow the rules and regulations of the program. They are not forced to participate. It is voluntary; therefore, they are expected to follow the rules of order.

Parents and Guardians should strive to help their sons or daughters to achieve success in athletics. Success is defined as participating at 100% of the individual's ability.

We can never expect to do more than they are capable of. However, we do want them to obtain their fullest potential. Supportive parents can instill this desire in student-athletes long after their playing days are over by seeing that the student is on time, attends practices and games, and follows the rules and regulations.

***Your support is appreciated, however; a ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault or be generally obnoxious. This privilege may be taken away if abused.**

Parents, please be considerate of all coaches, officials, and managers. They are giving up their own personal time to provide your child an opportunity to play.

Cheering will take the form of encouragement. No coaching or negative words aimed at any player, coach, manager, or official will be permitted.

Parents, Fans, Students, and Community Members Ejected from a Contest or Event:

Anyone that is ejected from a game or contest by the BISD administration, official, or police officer will meet with the BISD superintendent and campus administrator before attending another contest or event. It is the responsibility of the ejected individual to schedule the meeting. Coaches, sponsors, and directors involved in the contest or event, in which the ejection occurred, will be present at the meeting.

Administrative concerns will be reviewed at the meeting and dismissal from future contests or events shall be an option.

REQUIREMENTS TO PARTICIPATE:

The following items must be turned in to the Athletic Department before participating in any practice or game in any extracurricular athletic activity.

Physical Examination

A physical examination is required every year for all Junior High and High School Athletes (7th – 12th). The physical forms are available in the athletic office or on the UIL athletic webpage. Use only the approved UIL form to record physical examinations. Club or organization forms will not be accepted. The physical covers all sports for only a one year period.

Athletic Department Forms Packets

1. UIL Acknowledgement of Rules
2. Personal student and parent information. This packet should be filled out completely.

Acknowledgement of BISD Extracurricular Handbook

The student-athlete and the parent/guardian should sign the Handbook Acknowledgement card. It should be returned to the Athletic Department. This shows receipt of the Athletic Handbook and acknowledges that the student-athlete and parent/guardian will comply with the rules and policies contained in the Athletic Handbook.

Academic Eligibility “NO Pass, NO PLAY”

Athletic Period Scheduling

All student-athletes must be enrolled and participate in the athletic period in order to participate in a sport and must be reflected on the student-athlete's class schedule, unless approved by the Athletic Director and Principal because of conflicting academic reasons. Only two parent notes will be accepted per six weeks and shall not request for the athlete to be excused more than 2 consecutive days. After the second parent note, a doctor's note will be required, and a parent conference will be scheduled to discuss a possible change of the student's schedule.

Off-Season and Athletic Period Expectations

All athletes participating in the off-season or athletic period are expected to complete all assigned workouts and training activities. Consistent participation is essential for individual development and team success.

If an athlete is unable to participate due to illness or injury, a parent note will be accepted for up to 2 consecutive days. After that, a doctor's note is required for continued exemption from physical activity.

Athletic Age Eligibility:

To participate in athletics, at the high school level an athlete cannot reach his 19th birthday before September 1.

To be eligible to participate in athletics on the junior high level, the following local and district rules shall be followed:

1. 8th grade- A student cannot have reached their 15th birthday before Sept. 1.
2. 7th grade- A student cannot have reached their 14th birthday before Sept. 1
3. Anyone repeating the 8th grade is not eligible to play on the 8th grade team.

Administration of the Program:

The administration of the BISD Athletic Program should provide every boy and girl the opportunity to participate in any sport. Each head coach is responsible for making sure that all students are knowledgeable of tryout procedures and individual requirements for being in all sports. No student in any grade should be deprived of the opportunity to try out to participate in any sport if he/she has met the head coach's off- season and previous participation requirements.

The general administration of the Athletic Program is the direct responsibility of the Athletic Director. This includes the arrangements of all schedules, time and place of playing games, selection of officials, and the general management of all matters pertaining to the Athletic Program. In carrying out this program, each head coach in the department shall attend to details of their respective sports.

Athletic Department Policies

Coaches' Rules:

Coaches may establish additional rules and regulations with the approval of the Athletic Director for their respective sports. The rules pertaining to a particular sport must be explained, in writing, by the coach at the start of the season. The coach shall administer penalties for violation of team rules. Copies of all team rules are on file in the Athletic Office.

Attendance:

Players will attend all meetings, study halls, and team functions. When an absence occurs, notify your Head Coach as to the reasons behind the absence. In regards to make-up policies, the athlete must meet

the requirements of the Head Coach. Attendance can be a reason for removal from the Athletic Program. This is at the discretion of the Athletic Director and the Head Coach.

Missed Athletic Period/Practices/Contests:

If an athlete is going to miss an athletic period or practice, that athlete or their parent (not friend) must notify their Head Coach or Position Coach before that practice. (We want to teach accountability and responsibility to our student- athletes.)

No punishment will be given upon return to any athlete that misses practices or games due to illness or serious illness or death in the family. However, make-up workouts will be done upon return for failure to call ahead of time, missing practices for non-illness related reasons, and any other issues where the athlete did not make conscious effort to attend or to call in ahead of time.

Missing a contest for any other reason besides illness, family illness, or family death may result in suspension from the sport and from athletics in general. This will be handled case by case by the Head Coach and Athletic Director. We expect our athletes to make a commitment to their sport and not miss contests for reasons where absences can be avoided. This includes possible contests during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Spring Break holidays.

Team/Squad Selection/Cutting:

In accordance with our philosophy of athletics and our desire to see as many students as possible participate in the athletic program, we encourage coaches to keep as many students as they can without unbalancing the integrity of their sports. Choosing the members of the athletics squad is the sole responsibility of the coaches of those squads and teams. Prior to tryouts (if applicable), the coach shall provide the following information to all candidates for the team:

- A. Extent of tryout period
- B. Criteria used to select the team
- C. Number to be selected
- D. Practice commitment if the make the team
- E. Game commitments

Injury and Illness

Athletic Injuries

All athletes will be coached, instructed, and conditioned to compete at the peak of their abilities. Along with the competition and effort to acquire excellence is the reality of possible injury. Despite efforts made by BISD coaches and personnel to provide proper conditioning, protective equipment and safety practices, not all injuries are preventable and severe injuries can occur during athletic participation.

When an athlete is injured during an athletic event, they must inform their coach and the Athletic Trainer as soon as possible.

If the athlete goes to the doctor or to the hospital, they must bring back a signed note from the attending doctor that states their injury, treatment, and length of time they will be out of athletics. If the athlete has a note from a physician not to participate in athletics, ONLY a physician can release the athlete. Parents CANNOT overrule a physician's orders.

If you must leave school because of illness contact or come by the office, coach's office or training room.

If you are ill or injured, we don't expect you to work out, but if you are at school, we expect you to wear the uniform the day of and accompany your group or team unless you are given special permission by your head coach or trainer.

Promptness

Always be on time. On trips, the bus will not wait. After the final bell rings, you do not have time to waste; go directly to your sport. Tardiness will result in disciplinary action.

Disciplinary Removal

If it becomes necessary to consider removing a student from a team or the athletic program, the coach of that team will notify the Athletic Director. The student will have an opportunity to confer with the coach and the Athletic Director. Parents will receive notification and be invited to attend the conference.

Dress and Appearance

Everyone will wear their uniform in the same manner. All players will be properly groomed and will adhere to the BISD dress code. We are not individuals; we are a team and we want to look like a team. Your appearance away from the athletic facilities, especially at school should reflect the same class and pride that you show in our program. Look sharp and give an appearance of class.

Hair: Hair must be neat and of natural color. Hair will not be distracting, or prove to be a safety hazard to the athlete. Students' hairstyles will adhere to dress code standards.

Facial Hair: Male athletes will be clean-shaven at all times while on any BISD campus and at any team or school function. Sideburns shall be trimmed and not extend below the lobe of the ear. Sideburns should be the same width from top to bottom.

Earrings/Body Piercings: Earrings or body piercings are prohibited while on any BISD campus at any time for male athletes. Athletes will not wear jewelry, including earrings, during off season, practice or competition. Body piercings are also prohibited while on any BISD campus at any time as well as on an athletic bus and at any team function. While in season, athletes will follow UIL/NFHS rules within their specific sport as directed by coaches.

Tattoos: Tattoos must be covered at all times.

Athletes are not to bring jewelry to athletics, practices, or games. Athletes are strongly discouraged from bringing cellular phones, iPods, PDA's, or other electronic gaming devices to any Athletic event. The Athletic Director or head coach of the sport is NOT responsible for any loss of personal items that may occur.

Quitting/Removal from Team/Reinstatement

Commitment is the backbone to a highly successful athletic program. As the coaching staff and administration at BISD, we encourage athletes to "finish what you started." Perseverance leads to long term success in life.

1. There is no respect involved in quitting.
2. The punishment phase and length is fairly severe.
3. Success breeds success. People want to be part of a winner.

Removal- An athlete cannot be dismissed from a team until their parents have been contacted. In

addition to this, a meeting must be held with the athlete, the parents, the head coach of the sport, and the Athletic Director. This meeting must take place prior to removal from any team. Excessive absences, violation of the Athletic Department Policy, continuous academic ineligibility, and flagrant violations to the BISD Student Code of Conduct may result in removal from a team.

Reinstatement- No athletic participant or reinstatement will occur until a reinstatement meeting is held. Once removed from the team and the athlete wishes to return, a reinstatement meeting involving the following: the Head Coach, the Athletic Director, the athlete, and their parents can occur. During this meeting parameters for reinstatement will be discussed. To regain full reinstatement the athlete must meet all of the parameters discussed.

Quitting- Upon deciding to quit, any athlete will be given a 48 hour grace period, or cooling off period. At that time (or before then), the athlete will make a rational decision as to whether he/she still wants to quit. If still wishing to quit, the athlete must completely fill out a BISD Athletic Quit Form, have it signed by their parent(s) and themselves, and then hand it back to their head coach or athletic coordinator. Once the paperwork is turned in and signed by all parties, the athlete is not eligible for sport-specific practices for 60 school days. Failure to fill out a quit form properly will forfeit the athlete from participating in sports in the future.

A “QUIT” is also considered if an athlete misses 3 consecutive after-school practices or a game without prior approval of the coach.

Compromise “Quit” Rule- If there is a compromise between coach and athlete on good terms about leaving the team or sport, the 60-Day rule can be waived with approval from the Athletic Director. (This usually occurs only when both parties feel it is best for the overall team not to play any longer because of unusual circumstances.)

Multi-Sport Athletes/Simultaneous Participation in Sports

All student-athletes will be allowed and encouraged to participate in as many sports as possible. The BISD Athletic Department will always encourage athletes to compete in multiple sports. **THIS MAKES OUR OVERALL PROGRAM STRONGER.** Coaches will not discourage any athlete from competing in multiple sports, especially during the same seasons. Coaches at BISD will work closely with one another to ensure harmony and sharing of athletes amongst the staff. Coaches will work together in scheduling practices to ensure a minimal amount of multiple sport conflicts. It is highly recommended that parents be flexible when letting their children play multiple sports, yet be realistic about spreading their children too thin at one time.

The following procedures have been established:

1. Competitions take priority over practice
2. The higher-level activity has top priority (i.e. Varsity over JV)
3. District and playoff competitions take priority over normal contests
4. If the activities are roughly equal, the adult coaches/sponsors will meet face to face to attempt to reach a conclusion in the best interest of the student-athlete and school.

Once the decision has been made and the student has followed the decision, he/she will not be penalized in any way by either coach or sponsor.

Club Sports/Non-School Participation

A club is a sports program outside of the school that is not affiliated with UIL Athletics. We are very fortunate to live in a community where the High School can be the main focus. We feel our athletes' obligations are to their school team first.

We will not excuse our athletes to miss a school contest, athletic event, or practice for a club event. If an athlete pursues club participation he/she must:

1. Contact all head coaches of sports at school in which he/she is participating in.
2. Be willing to assume the consequences related to their status in the squad as a starter, 2nd string, or even dismissal, for the time participating in club activities with approval of all head coaches involved at the school.

Care of Equipment & Facilities

Only athletes are allowed in the dressing room areas and restrooms. Take care of your equipment. Do not alter issued equipment. You are responsible for returning all equipment issued to you. You will be charged for all equipment not returned.

Take care of your facilities. Keep your locker room and locker clean. It is each athlete's responsibility to secure your belongings in your locker. Make sure your locker is closed and locked at all times. Do not put your hands and feet on the walls. Cleats are not permitted in any indoor athletic facility. On rainy days, shoes should be taken off before entering any indoor athletic facility.

The district will provide the vendor for practice gear. It is the athletes responsibility to purchase.

Parent Conferences

BISD will adhere to the UIL recommended protocol for parent-coach conferences. The procedure for parent-coach meeting is as follows:

1. The parent will call or email their child's coach to set up an appointment.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, contact the high school office and ask for a meeting date with the coach.
3. The parent will have a clear objective for what they expect to accomplish as a result of the meeting. This objective needs to be stated clearly and understood by the coach at the beginning of the meeting.
4. The parent will discuss only the facts, as they are understood by the parent.
5. The parent will not confront the coach before, during, or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution of the situation, but often escalate it.

If the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution a parent should:

Contact the Athletic Director to set up a meeting with the Athletic Director, coach, and parent present. At this meeting, an appropriate next step will be determined, if necessary.

The following issues are NOT appropriate for discussion with your child's coach:

1. How much playing time each athlete will be allowed.
2. Team strategy.
3. Play calling.
4. Any situation that deals with other student-athletes.

Disqualification of Athletes

Any athlete ejected from any contest for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant violations of the contest rules is subject to the following discipline.

1st Offense- Suspended for the 1st half of the next contest.

2nd Offense- Suspended for 1 game or contest. A parent conference will take place with the following: head coach, athlete, and parent/guardian.

3rd Offense- Suspended from competition for the remainder of that season and a parent conference will take place with the following: head coach, Athletic Director, athlete, and parent/guardian.

Removal of Disruptive Spectators

Per Texas Law SB2929, game officials may now remove spectators immediately for disruptive or inappropriate behavior. No warning is required. If a spectator is asked to leave, the decision is final under Texas law.

Spectators are expected to cheer for our players, not against the other team, treat officials and visiting teams with respect, and keep events positive for everyone.

BAND/Color Guard:

FORMS

All students must complete and return the following forms prior to the first performance. No one will travel or perform with the band without these forms on file.

1. Medical Release
2. Travel Form
3. UIL Acknowledgement Form
4. Sudden Cardiac Arrest form

EXPECTATIONS OF BAND MEMBER

This section contains a list of rules and guidelines that we will follow in our pursuit of excellence this year. Please note that ALL Brackett High School Handbook guidelines apply. This section underscores and makes additions to established guidelines that are specifically for band.

Attitude

1. The desire to work together as a group.
2. Always want the performance (including rehearsal) to improve.
3. Be open minded to constructive criticism.
4. Be considerate of others.
5. Practice persistence. Don't practice until you get it right, practice until you can't get it wrong.
6. Have a sense of pride in being a member of the Brackett Tiger Band.
7. Being a part of a large organization, such as the Tiger Band, requires a great deal of individual responsibility in order for the group to be successful. Each student will be responsible for taking care of his/her equipment and uniform.

It is the student's responsibility to make sure that he/she is abiding by all rules and regulations of this band in order to make our program as productive as possible. It is also the responsibility of each student to maintain their grades in ALL classes. Academic achievement is the primary goal

of a public school education.

ATTENDANCE

All students enrolled in band are required to attend all rehearsals and performances unless previous arrangements have been made with the band directors. This includes, but is not limited to, all of summer band, Monday night rehearsals, before school rehearsals, pep rallies, and all events for which the band is performing. Work schedules should be adjusted ahead of time. Any employer of high school students understands that there are school responsibilities that must be accommodated. Be honest with your employer about your school responsibilities in the beginning and they are more likely to help you when you need them. Our schedule is established enough in advance for arrangements to be made. Please respect our time

together. We try to keep practice times down to a minimum for everyone's convenience, therefore, each minute we have together is crucial for our development.

DISCIPLINE

For the Brackett Band to be productive, all members should practice discipline in rehearsal, performance, and everyday living. Remember, you are a representative of an entire community, even more so when you put on a uniform. The following list is a code of conduct that we will use in our relations with each other and with the public at large.

1. Be courteous.
2. Be respectful to fellow band members, visiting bands, directors, the Band Boosters, all teachers, and the general public.
3. When in a restaurant, be on your best behavior. Please use inside voices, eat quickly, clean up the area, and dispose of trash properly before you leave. A good rule of thumb is to leave the area better than when you arrive.
4. During rehearsal, you are not to talk or be disruptive. You are expected to pay attention at all times. Do not bring any material that does not pertain to the band into rehearsal.
5. Show pride in being a member of the Industrial Band. This includes wearing the uniform correctly at all times. (See the section on uniform for details).
6. Follow the rules and set a good example for your fellow band members.
7. Remember that when we are in the stands at football games we are still performing. In order to maintain a performance mindset the following rules apply:
 - a. No food or drink in the stands (including gum).
 - b. Stay in your assigned seat.
 - c. Have your instrument and music ready to perform at any time.
 - d. Don't abuse the restroom privilege (check in and out with a band director).
 - e. Unsportsmanlike comments or conduct will not be tolerated at any time.
 - f. Don't stand on the seats (people behind you will not be able to see).
 - g. No playing instruments unless instructed to do so.
 - h. During the school day and on school property, communication devices are prohibited. During student travel, a communication device must be stored and off during the travel time (during school hours).
 - i. No unauthorized visitors in the band set.
 - j. DO have fun and cheer for the team.

ELIGIBILITY

The band program abides by and supports the UIL/TEA No Pass, No Play rules. If a student does not maintain passing grades then they cannot fully participate in the band program. Early Morning Rehearsals, Participation, Skills, Fundamentals

MARCHING BAND

The Marching Band is the largest and most visible of the performing ensembles at Brackett. Performance requirements during marching season are the most strenuous for the entire year. We march each Friday night of the football season and any playoff games that ensue. We also attend invitational marching contests, UIL Region Marching contests (Area Marching and State Marching Contest depending on qualification). Marching rehearsals will be on Monday nights from 6:00 - 9:00 pm.

INDIVIDUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The students are offered experiences each year that are designed to enhance their musical education outside of the school day. These opportunities are optional but strongly encouraged. The band will pay for all entry fees for interested students as long as the school budget allows. In the event a student becomes ineligible or decides not to attend, entry fees paid for that student will have to be paid back to the band. These opportunities include:

1. ATSSB Region 13 auditions
2. ATSSB Area auditions (must advance from region)
3. UIL Region Solo and Ensemble competition
4. UIL State Solo and Ensemble competition (must advance from region)

Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team

Brackett ISD Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team activities will comply with UIL regulations and shall be in accordance with safety standards as prescribed by BISD and the director/coach/sponsor.

Purpose

Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team members represent Brackett ISD and are expected to conduct themselves in a way that brings honor to the school. Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team shall promote and uphold school spirit, develop a sense of good sportsmanship among students and adults and strive to uphold the highest personal, as well as performance standards both at school and at athletic, band and all competitions and camp events.

Required fees/fundraising/camp/UIL competitions

Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team members are required to purchase personal equipment and uniforms such as shoes, equipment bags, batons, practice flags & poles, etc. These items belong to the member and it is the member's responsibility to manage, maintain and keep track of them. If lost, stolen or damaged, it is the member's responsibility to replace or repair them in order to perform. In the event that items are purchased by BISD, the item is on loan and is the responsibility of the member to maintain and take care of the item. If an item loaned to a member is lost, stolen or damaged/destroyed, it is the responsibility of the member to repair or replace the item at their cost and it becomes the property of BISD. Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team camp attendance is mandatory for all high school members and is optional for BJH members. Camp fees, camp outfits, additional expenses are the responsibility of the member and must be paid in advance (before June).

Fundraising money raised as a team will be divided among the team members that participated and will be applied to camp fees or other expenses as determined. In the event that a member doesn't fully attend camp and the fees were paid by the school or team funds, the offending member will be required to repay the money as a no show penalty and will incur demerits. *

Competition Fees: In the event that BISD pays the registration fees for solo & ensemble (Regional &

State) and the member drops out, is ineligible or otherwise does not attend, they will be required to repay the total amount of fees to BISD. *

*Excused absences will be: 1) death in the family, 2) hospitalization or illness.

In the event of hospitalization or illness, the member must bring a release from the doctor to the sponsor. This will let the sponsor know the student has been released and if there are any limitations to activities.

Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team DEMERIT GUIDELINES

The following rules apply to all Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team. Demerits will be given if violation of any rule occurs, including but not limited to the BISD Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team Demerit Guidelines and the Student Code of Conduct and/or Student Handbook.

1. Demerit Notice Records will be kept on file with the sponsor/directors.
2. The Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team member and sponsor will sign a Demerit Notice of the violation.
3. A Demerit Notice will be sent home to be signed by the parent/guardian.
4. A summary sheet of accumulated demerits will be sent home to the parents/guardians if demerits are being accumulated quickly, or if the Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team is in danger of being dismissed from the program.
5. Any summary sheet will be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the sponsor.
6. Refusal or failure to acknowledge the demerit notice with a signature by the Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team member and/or parent/guardian does not mean that the demerit(s) do not exist.

GENERAL

7 DEMERITS

1. Missing a game (including playoff games), camp (per day), practice, pep-rally, or meeting you are expected to attend. The Color Guard/Twirler/Band Auxiliary/Drill Team member must personally let the sponsor know if you will be late or will miss an event. Excused absences will be: 1) death in the family, 2) hospitalization or illness.
In the event of hospitalization or illness, the member must bring a release from the doctor to the sponsor. This will let the sponsor know the student has been released and if there are any limitations to activities.
2. Failure to participate in group activities such as fundraising, practice, etc. You must personally let the sponsor know you will not be able to participate in the event prior to the date of the event. Telling another member or anyone other than the sponsor does not comply with the rules. Excused absences would include 1) death in the family, 2) hospitalization or illness.
In the event of hospitalization or illness, the member must bring a release from the doctor to the sponsor. This will let the sponsor know the student has been released and if there are any limitations to activities.
3. Any member missing more than one practice prior to a pep rally will not perform at the pep rally.

The member may receive demerits for missing practice and an additional five (5) demerits for not performing at the pep rally. Any member missing practice the day prior to a pep rally will not perform at the upcoming pep rally and may receive five (5) demerits for not performing at the pep rally. *Any member that doesn't know a routine for pep rally, sideline or halftime will be sat out at the director's discretion as to not create a detriment to the performance of the auxiliary and band.

4. Social media such as... Facebook, Instagram, snap chat etc. appearing on the internet is public domain even if it is marked private. Members will uphold good character at all times including action on personal websites and postings as well as posting on other students' websites. Any question of appropriateness that is unfavorable or illegal will be decided by the principal and sponsor. The principal will investigate the allegations or incidents that involve media and inappropriate involvement in these areas.
5. Incriminating photos, videos or statements depicting any of the following will result in disciplinary action, up to and possibly including removal: 1) violence; 2) hazing; 3) prohibited harassment (based on race, religion, national origin, disability, gender); 4) lewdness including full or partial nudity; 5) inappropriate or profane gestures; 6) vandalism; 7) stalking; 8) selling, possessing, or use of alcohol; 9) selling, possessing, or using a controlled substance; 10) possessing or using a vaping device or cartridges; 11) or any other criminal act or act punishable by law.
6. Furthermore, members may not engage in association such as retweeting, subtweeting, favoriting, liking, reposting, etc. of materials involving obscene materials, violence, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping, hazing, harassment targeting other students of staff members based on race, religion, national origin, disability, gender, including gender identification or sexual preference.
7. Accumulating more than 8 excused, unexcused or tardy(s) (combined) during a six week(s) grading period.

5 DEMERITS

1. No public display of affection. Friends are not allowed at practice. Friends who attend games may visit with members prior to the game or after the game. If a member is late or neglectful of duties and responsibilities, demerits will be issued.
2. Being late to a game, practice, pep-rally, or meeting that you are expected to attend. You must let the sponsor know prior to the event you will be late. The only acceptable excuse for being late is if you have a doctor's appointment. A release from the doctor will be required so the sponsor will know there are no limitations of activities.
3. Leaving a designated area (field, stands, practice, etc.) without permission.
4. Misbehavior in class, disrespect toward a teacher, administrators, team member, community members, or consistent tardiness to class resulting in Saturday school.
5. Uniforms/outfits must be neat and clean at all times. All members will wear the proper uniform/outfit on game days, trips, camps, and designated events. These uniforms (hair style, bow, uniform, socks, shoes) include, but are not limited to uniform worn:
 - during school (or at a pep rally)
 - during travel or during the game or event
6. Non-cooperation or fighting among members will not be tolerated. This rule includes, but is not limited to verbal abuse of other members (degrading, making fun of, bickering, etc.). If a fight breaks out between members, or if a member is fighting with another student, suspension from the squad for a period of one week will occur with possible grounds for immediate dismissal from the squad.
7. Use of profanity will not be tolerated.

8. Failure to promote and uphold positive, encouraging attitudes during auxiliary activities.
9. Not participating at games, practice, decorating, fund raising, and meetings will result in demerits.
10. If a member receives detention, Saturday school 5 demerits will be issued
11. Violation of Student Code of Conduct and/or Student Handbook.
12. Violation of Dress Code.
13. Any member not successfully meeting UIL NO PASS NO PLAY GRADE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS will receive 5 demerits for the ineligible period. Practice attendance will be mandatory during the ineligible game period.

3 DEMERITS

1. No jewelry will be worn during practice, games, or pep-rallies. This is for the protection of all members. Exception: team jewelry as part of the uniform.
2. No gum chewing at practice, games, pep-rallies.
3. Members are responsible for bringing all items necessary to practice. This includes: batons, flags, rifle/saber. Mini poms, pep rally and jazz performance shoes, and proper workout clothes.

FOOTBALL

5 DEMERITS

1. During pre-game activities, auxiliary members will stand at attention while school songs, prayer, and national anthem are being performed. **DISRESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**
2. Auxiliary members will have a break after half-time. Members may leave at the beginning of 3rd quarter only if dismissed and will be back in the designated area of the bleachers ready to perform approximately two (2) minutes before the end of the 3rd quarter.
3. Auxiliary members may not leave designated areas, hang out with non-members during the game (non-members are not allowed to sit in the designated areas)
ONLY AUXILIARY MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED ON THE SIDELINES/FIELD.
4. Auxiliary members are assigned duties. These duties include, but are not limited to weekly pep-rallies and loading/unloading responsibilities throughout the season. Members not sharing in assigned duties will receive demerits for non-participation and non-cooperation.
Color Guard/Twirlers/Auxiliary/Drill Team members are not only a representative of Brackett ISD outside the community, but you are also expected to be an example to other students in and out of class by showing respect to teachers, not misbehaving in class, not being tardy, completing homework assignments, showing respect to other students, etc. When traveling as a squad, all travel uniforms will meet the Brackett Dress Code located in the Student Handbook.
Because participation in Color Guard/Twirlers/Auxiliary/Drill Team is a privilege and not a right, Brackett ISD is authorized to set higher standards for Color Guard/Twirlers/Auxiliary/Drill Team participants. Actions performed by a member which violate any of the Student Code of Conduct, Student Handbook, or Technology Handbook Rules, will result in demerits and/or may result in immediate dismissal from the squad. The number of demerits given will be made by both the principal and sponsor and will override the demerit system or any demerits accumulated by the squad member at the time of violation.

Twenty accumulated demerits will result in a member being removed from all activities for one week.

A Color Guard/Twirlers/Auxiliary/Drill Team member **WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CHEER SQUAD UPON ACCUMULATION OF THIRTY (30) DEMERITS.**

LETTER JACKET REQUIREMENTS

1. High School Color Guard/Twirlers/Auxiliary/Drill Team members become eligible for a Letter Jacket when they have completed their third year of Color Guard/Twirlers/Auxiliary/Drill Team service. (May be combined with band)
2. If a Color Guard/Twirlers/Auxiliary/Drill Team member makes a rating of ONE at UIL Regional Solo & Ensemble on a class one performance and advances to State they will immediately qualify.
3. Color Guard/Twirlers/Auxiliary/Drill Team must be in good standing with the current squad, and must not have been removed from the squad due to discipline or demerit reasons during the years of service.

CHEER:

Brackett ISD Cheerleader/Spotter/Mascot

Cheerleader/Spotter/Mascot activities will comply with UIL regulations and shall be in accordance with safety standards as prescribed by the National Federation High School Spirit Handbook.

BRACKETT ISD SECONDARY SCHOOLS CHEERLEADER PROGRAM PURPOSE

Being a cheerleader is an honor and a privilege; therefore, excellence in character, conduct, academics, and performance is expected at all times. The purpose of the High School Cheerleading Program is to promote and uphold school spirit, encourage positive sportsmanship, and strengthen the relationship between the school and community during all school-sponsored events.

CHEERLEADER/SPOTTER/MASCOT TRYOUT

1. No candidate will be permitted to try out without all forms being completed and attending a MANDATORY PARENT/CANDIDATE MEETING. The only excused absence from attending the mandatory meeting is if you are attending a UIL event. Candidate(s) must make arrangements to meet prior with the sponsor/cheer coach.
2. Eligibility to try out will be determined by an evaluation that consists of academic, discipline, attendance and clinic participation records.
3. Each student must be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities at the time of practice and tryouts.
4. Candidates will be selected by three impartial judges.
5. Candidates will be required to do the following:
 - Cheer
 - Chant
 - Dance
6. Judges will score each performance awarding from 1-100 points.
7. For the Varsity Cheer Squad, each candidate must score a minimum of 188 points of the total judge(s) score(s) in order to earn a spot on the Varsity Cheer Squad for the upcoming school year.
8. There will be no more than sixteen cheerleaders with a minimum score of 188 points of the judge(s) score(s) on the Varsity Cheer Squad.
9. If there are less than sixteen High School Candidates with a minimum score of 188 points of the total judge(s) score(s), the High School Sponsor/Coach **at his/her discretion** may choose to fill open spaces with candidates who score below 188 points of the total judge(s) score(s), not to exceed sixteen cheerleaders.
10. For Varsity Spotter, each candidate must score a minimum of 188 points of the total judge(s) score(s) to earn a spot on the Varsity Squad.
11. There will be no more than two varsity spotter(s) with a minimum score of 188 points of the total judge(s) score(s) on the Varsity Cheer Squad.
12. If there are less than two Varsity Spotter Candidates with a minimum score of 188 points of the total judge(s) score(s), the High School Sponsor/Coach **at his/her discretion** may choose to fill open spaces with candidates who score below 188 points of the total judge(s) score(s), not to exceed three Varsity Spotters.
13. The top candidate score for mascot tryouts will be mascot for the upcoming school year.
14. The top six scores for Junior High candidates will be cheerleaders for the upcoming school year.
15. In the event of a tie for the 16th position on the High School squad with a minimum of 188 points of the total judge(s) score(s), the 2nd position for Varsity Spotter with a minimum of 188 points of the total judges(s) score(s), and the 6th position on the Junior High squad, the Academic Evaluation to Determine Eligibility to Tryout points will be added to each tied participant's total to break the tie.

16. Candidates trying out for high school cheerleader or mascot are allowed to switch between the two positions from the time of sign-up until the end of the second day of practice. At the end of the second day, the position where the student is practicing, will be the tryout position.
17. Any candidate who has been dismissed from the squad due to excessive demerits can not try out for the cheer squad for a period of one year after the dismissal or misconduct.
18. Any candidate who has been suspended or expelled from school can not tryout for the cheer squad for a period of one year after the dismissal or misconduct.

Transfer Students and Active Military (PCS) Tryout Guidelines

1. Students who transfer after official tryouts may be considered for placement only in the event of an available opening on the squad and with approval from the Cheer Sponsor/Coach and campus administration. All transfer student requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and final decisions will be based on program needs, evaluation results, and administrative discretion.
2. In evaluating transfer students for possible placement after tryouts, the following factors may be considered to support their request. These criteria are not required; however, they may strengthen a student's consideration:
 - Prior selection to a cheerleading squad at the student's previous school for the upcoming school year.
 - A letter of verification from the previous cheer coach confirming squad placement and good standing.
 - Completion of a skills evaluation with a score comparable to or exceeding the lowest scoring candidate selected during the most recent tryout process
3. Once a transfer student is approved for consideration, the Cheer Sponsor/Coach will establish the specific evaluation criteria and/or tryout process.
4. Students qualifying under the Active Military (PCS) provision are exempt from the transfer student placement limitation regarding available openings. These students will be given the opportunity to try out if they were previously members of a cheer squad at their former school and provide a letter of recommendation from their previous coach. However, all eligibility requirements, scoring minimums, and squad size limitations still apply.

CHEERLEADER/MASCOT SELECTION

1. Parents/guardians are responsible for the financial burden of a candidate being selected as a cheerleader/mascot.
2. Selection as a cheerleader/mascot is a privilege, not a right.
3. The privilege of representing the school can be removed either temporarily or permanently, at the discretion of the sponsor with consultation by the principal for:
 - failing to comply with the 2026-2027 BISD Cheerleader/Spotter/Mascot Constitution and Tryout Packet
 - failing to comply with the 2026-2027 Extracurricular Handbook to be given at a later date.
4. Competitions will be at the discretion of BISD.
5. Selected cheerleader(s)/spotter(s)/ mascot(s) are not guaranteed any specific competition position (pep rally spots, game spots, performance sports, etc.). Position assignments may change at any time up to each competition. Any participant who declines any competition position (pep rally spots, game spots, performance spots, etc.) position will forfeit their eligibility to try out for the following school year.
 - Invitationals. Regionals, Nationals
 - UIL State Spirit Championships, et.
 - Failure to attend the UIL State Spirit Championships without sponsor/cheer coach approval automatically forfeits the cheerleaders/spotter/mascot's chance to try out for any position the upcoming school year.
6. Selected cheerleaders/mascots are expected to complete the full cheerleading year.
7. A full year of cheerleading is defined as the period beginning on the date the squad is selected at tryouts (e.g., March 2026) and continuing through the end of the academic school year (May 2027) for which the candidate has been selected.
8. Cheerleader(s)/mascot(s) who quit their position at any time will not be allowed to begin another sport until the UIL State Cheer competition has concluded.

9. Cheerleader(s)/mascot(s) who quit the cheerleading squad will not be allowed to try out for any squad position(s) the upcoming school year.
10. Cheerleader/Mascot camp is mandatory.
11. Cheerleaders are expected to raise money to cover expenses for locker signs, paints, ink, decorations etc.
12. Once a candidate has been selected as a cheerleader, all fees for uniforms and camp are due upon receipt of the official invoice.
13. Captain and Co-captain for the High School Squad will be selected by the following criteria:
 - Candidates who have officially made the High School Squad and wish to run for Captain or Co-captain must be classified as a jr./sr. for the upcoming school year and must have attended the current UIL State Spirit Competition with a minimum of two years of UIL State Spirit Competition attendance, to be eligible to run for the position.
 - Candidates must be on a consecutive term. Any candidate who has skipped a term is not eligible until a consecutive term.
 - Captain Titles may be removed at any time for violations or not following leadership roles of a Captain.
14. Junior High cheerleaders will alternate head cheerleader duties each week.
15. Cheerleading is a team sport that requires every cheerleader to know their responsibilities and perform as a part of a TEAM. We are unlike any other sport in that we do not have substitute members if someone is absent. Attendance is essential to the success of each season. *This previous sentence applies equally to varsity and junior high squads.

CHEERLEADER/MASCOT DEMERIT GUIDELINES

The following rules apply to all cheerleaders and the mascot. Demerits will be given if violation of any rule occurs, including but not limited to the **BISD Cheerleader/Mascot Demerit Guidelines and the Student Code of Conduct and/or Student Handbook**.

1. Demerit Notice Records will be kept on file with the sponsors.
2. The cheerleader/mascot and sponsor will sign a Demerit Notice of the violation.
3. A Demerit Notice will be sent home to be signed by the parent/guardian.
4. A summary sheet of accumulated demerits will be sent home to the parents/guardians if demerits are being accumulated quickly, or if the cheerleader/mascot is in danger of being dismissed from the squad.
5. Any summary sheet will be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the sponsor.
6. Refusal or failure to acknowledge the demerit notice with a signature by the cheerleader and/or parent/guardian does not mean that the demerit(s) do not exist.

7 DEMERITS

1. Missing a game (including playoff games), practice, pep-rally, or meeting you are expected to attend. **The cheerleader/mascot must personally let the sponsor know if you will be late or will miss an event.** Excused absences will be: 1) death in the family, 2) hospitalization or illness. In the event of hospitalization or illness, the cheerleader/mascot must bring a release from the doctor to the sponsor. This will let the sponsor know the student has been released and if there are any limitations to activities.
2. Failure to participate in group activities such as fundraising, decorating, or practice. **You must personally let the sponsor know you will not be able to participate in the event prior to the date of the event.** Excused absences would include 1) death in the family, 2) hospitalization or illness. In the event of hospitalization or illness, the cheerleader/mascot must bring a release from the doctor to the sponsor. This will let the sponsor know the student has been released and if there are any limitations to activities.
3. Any squad member missing more than one practice prior to a pep rally will not perform at the pep rally. The cheerleader may receive demerits for missing practice and an additional five (5) demerits for not performing at the pep rally. Any squad member missing practice the day prior to a pep rally will not perform at the

upcoming pep rally and may receive five (5) demerits for not performing at the pep rally.

4. Social media such as... Facebook, Instagram, snap chat etc. appearing on the internet is public domain even if it is marked private. Cheerleaders will uphold good character at all times including action on personal websites and postings as well as posting on other students' websites. Any question of appropriateness that is unfavorable or illegal will be decided by the principal and sponsor. The principal will investigate the allegations or incidents that involve media and inappropriate involvement in these areas.
5. Incriminating photos, videos or statements depicting any of the following will result in disciplinary action, up to and possibly including removal from the squad: 1) violence; 2) hazing; 3) prohibited harassment (based on race, religion, national origin, disability, gender); 4) lewdness including full or partial nudity; 5) inappropriate or profane gestures; 6) vandalism; 7) stalking; 8) selling, possessing, or use of alcohol; 9) selling, possessing, or using a controlled substance; 10) or any other criminal act or act punishable by law.
6. Furthermore, squad members may not engage in association such as retweeting, subtweeting, favoriting, liking, reposting, etc. of materials involving materials, obscene materials, violence, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping, hazing, harassment targeting other students of staff members based on race, religion, national origin, disability, gender, including gender identification or sexual preference.
7. Accumulating more than 8 excused, unexcused or tardy(s) (combined) during a six week(s) grading period.

5 DEMERITS

1. No public display of affection. Friends are not allowed at practice. Friends who attend games may visit with squad members prior to the game, during half time, or after the game. If a squad member is late or neglectful of duties and responsibilities, demerits will be issued.
2. Being late to a game, practice, pep-rally, or meeting that you are expected to attend. **You must let the sponsor know prior to the event you will be late.** The only acceptable excuse for being late is if you have a doctor's appointment. A release from the doctor will be required so the sponsor will know there are no limitations of activities.
3. Leaving a designated area (field, practice, etc.) without permission.
4. Misbehavior in class, disrespect toward a teacher, administrators, cheerleaders/mascot, community members, or consistent tardiness to class resulting in Saturday school.
5. Uniforms must be neat and clean at all times. All squad members will wear the proper uniform on game days. These uniforms (hair style, bow, uniform, socks, shoes) include, but are not limited to uniform worn:
 - during school (or at a pep rally)
 - during travel
 - during the game or event
6. Non-cooperation or fighting among squad members will not be tolerated. This rule includes, but is not limited to verbal abuse of other squad members (degrading, making fun of, bickering, etc.).
7. If a fight breaks out between squad members, or if a squad member is fighting with another student, suspension from the squad for a period of one week will occur with possible grounds for immediate dismissal from the squad.
8. Use of profanity will not be tolerated.
9. Failure to promote and uphold positive, encouraging attitudes during cheerleading activities.
10. Not participating at games, practice, decorating, fund raising, and meetings will result in demerits.
11. If a squad member receives detention, Saturday school 5 demerits will be issued
12. Violation of Student Code of Conduct and/or Student Handbook.
13. Violation of Dress Code.
14. Any squad member not successfully meeting UIL NO PASS NO PLAY GRADE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS will receive 5 demerits for the ineligible period. Practice attendance will be mandatory during the ineligible game period.

3 DEMERITS

1. No jewelry will be worn during practice, games, or pep-rallies. This is for the protection of all squad members.

2. No gum chewing at practice, games, pep-rallies.
3. Cheerleaders are responsible for bringing all items necessary to practice. This includes: pom poms, cheerleader shoes, and proper workout clothes.

FOOTBALL 5 DEMERITS

1. During pre-game activities, cheerleaders and the mascot will stand at attention while school songs, prayer, and national anthem are being performed. **DISRESPECTFUL BEHAVIOR WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**
2. Squad members will have a break at half-time. Squad members may leave the sidelines at the end of the second quarter and will be back in front of the bleachers or forming a victory line approximately three (3) minutes before the beginning of the second half. The mascot will be in uniform and ready for the game no less than twenty (20) minutes prior to the start of the game or event. The mascot will remain in uniform, with the exception of removing the head and hands during half-time or to get a drink or ice until the end of the game or event.
3. Squad members may not stand around under the bleachers during half-time. You may sit in the stands with family or friends, or return to the front of the bleachers during half-time activities. **ONLY SQUAD MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED ON THE SIDELINES/FIELD.**
4. Cheerleaders are assigned duties prior to the first football game. These duties include, but are not limited to weekly pep-rallies and loading/unloading van responsibilities throughout the ten week season. Cheerleaders not sharing in assigned duties will receive demerits for non-participation and non-cooperation among squad members.

BASKETBALL

1. Squad members will be allowed breaks before the varsity girl's game, during half-time of the girl's game (after performance), before the varsity boy's game, and during half-time of the boy's game, (after performance). After each break, squad members will return to the bleachers just prior to the beginning of play. All squad members will remain on the floor or in the bleachers during playtime.
2. Squad members who are playing in JV or Varsity games will return to the gym and cheer squad by the end of the first quarter of the following game. (i.e., if you are playing JV basketball, you must be in uniform and in the stands with the rest of the cheer squad by the end of the first quarter of play of the varsity girl's game.)

Cheerleaders/mascot are not only a representative of Brackett ISD outside the community, but you are also expected to be an example to other students in and out of class by showing respect to teachers, not misbehaving in class, not being tardy, completing homework assignments, showing respect to other students, etc. When traveling as a squad, all travel uniforms will meet the Brackett Dress Code located in the Student Handbook.

Because participation in cheerleading or mascot is a privilege and not a right, Brackett ISD is authorized to set higher standards for cheerleader/mascot participants.

Actions performed by a squad member which violate any of the Student Code of Conduct, Student Handbook, or Technology Handbook Rules, will result in demerits and/or may result in immediate dismissal from the squad. The number of demerits given will be made by both the principal and cheer coach/sponsor and will override the demerit system or any demerits accumulated by the squad member at the time of violation.

Twenty accumulated demerits will result in a squad member being removed from all activities for one week.

A CHEERLEADER/MASCOT WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CHEER SQUAD UPON ACCUMULATION OF THIRTY (30) DEMERITS.

LETTER JACKET REQUIREMENTS

1. High School Cheerleaders/Mascot(s) become eligible for a Letter Jacket when they have completed their first year of cheerleader service.
2. One year of service includes the current year football, UIL cheer competition (unless not attended by squad),

and basketball season.

3. Cheerleaders must be in good standing with the current squad, and must not have been removed from the squad due to discipline or demerit reasons during the year of service.

NHS (National Honor Society):

PARTICIPATION & OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

A group is most successful when everyone participates in all meetings and activities. In order to make sure all members meet their obligations, we will use a demerit system. If a member accumulates 8 (eight) participation demerits, the member will be referred to the BHS NHS Faculty Council. The Faculty Council will determine disciplinary action (Bylaws Article IV, Section 3).

MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

Unexcused meeting/activity absence 3 points Unexcused meeting/activity tardy 2 points Failure to dress as instructed 2 points

Brackett High School National Honor Society Acceptable Community Service

- Community service..... “is considered to be actions undertaken by the student, which are done with or on behalf of others, without financial or material compensation” (National Honor Society handbook)
- takes place outside of the regular school day.
- is not time spent on activities outside the regular school, that are generally expected of all members of a class or organization, or for raising funds for the benefit of a class organization. (for example: working in a football concession stand, decorating a homecoming float, etc.)
- is done for some type of non-profit organization or governing body. These include, but are not limited to, our school district, churches, 4-H club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Little League, City of Brackettville or Spofford, Kinney County etc... An adult supervisor for the organization must provide a signature verifying the service, and contact information, “Work done for a church must be clearly defined as an act of service not an act of worship.”
- can be performed in other communities, but at least 5 hours must benefit our local community. These 5 hours should be done through the Kinney County Library, the Hope Center, CHEER, the Kinney County Chamber of Commerce, Fort Clark Springs Community Council, the Kinney County Arts Council, or Kinney County 4H.
- If done for an individual, it should be under the supervision of a non-profit’s adult leader (example: mowing an elderly person’s yard under the supervision of your church youth leader or city maintenance personnel etc..) The supervisor does not need to be present for the community service, but must have knowledge of it ahead of time, and be willing to verify the service.

If you are not sure if something is community service, check with your NHS advisor ahead of time.

Required Hours:

Current Members - 15 hours minimum from at least 3 different sources, 5 hours from designated local organizations. Timeframe to earn hours: October to October

New Members - 10 hours minimum from at least 2 different sources, 5 hours from

designated local organizations. Timeframe to earn hours: from notification in August to October.

Brckett High School National Honor Society By-Laws

Revised: October 2014

ARTICLE I: NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1--The name of this chapter shall be the Brackett High School Chapter of the National Honor Society.

Section 2--The purpose of this chapter shall be to create an enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in the students of Brackett High School.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1--Membership in this chapter shall be known as active and graduate. Active members become graduate members at graduation. Graduate members have no voice or vote in chapter affairs. Section 2-- Membership in this chapter is an honor bestowed upon deserving students by the faculty, and shall be based on the criteria of scholarship, service, leadership, and character.

Section 3--Eligibility a. Candidates eligible for election to this chapter must be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior class. b. To be eligible for selection to membership in this chapter, the candidate must have been in attendance for a period of at least one semester at Brackett High School. c. Candidates eligible for selection to the chapter shall have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.4, as determined by the GPA committee. Upon meeting the grade level, attendance, and GPA standard requirements, candidates shall then be considered based on their service, leadership, and character.

ARTICLE III: SELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section 1--The selection of members to this chapter shall be by a majority vote of the Faculty Council consisting of five faculty members appointed by the principal. The chapter advisor shall be the sixth, nonvoting, ex officio member of the Faculty Council.

Section 2--Prior to selection, the following shall occur: a. Students' academic records shall be reviewed to determine scholastic eligibility. b. Students who are eligible scholastically ("candidates") shall be notified and asked to complete and submit the community service and leadership forms to the faculty adviser. In order to be considered for selection by the Faculty Council, forms must be submitted by the specified deadline. c. The principal will complete a form detailing discipline referrals for candidates for use by the Faculty Council in evaluating character. d. The Faculty Council shall review the community service,

leadership, and discipline information forms in order to determine membership eligibility for all candidates.

Section 3--The selection of new active members shall be held once a year during the first semester of the school year.

Section 4--Candidates become members when inducted at a special ceremony.

Section 5--Once selected and inducted, all members are expected to maintain the standards by which they were selected and maintain all obligations of membership.

Section 6--An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers from this school will be given a letter indicating the status of his or her membership and signed by the principal or chapter adviser. Section 7--An active member of the National Honor Society who transfers to this school will be automatically accepted for membership in this chapter. The Faculty Council shall grant to the transferring member one semester to attain the membership requirements and, thereafter, this member must maintain those requirements for this chapter in order to retain his or her membership.

ARTICLE IV: DISCIPLINE AND DISMISSAL

Section 1--Any member who falls below the standards of scholarship, leadership, character, or service will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include dismissal from the Brackett High School chapter of the National

Honor Society.

Section 2--If a member's cumulative GPA falls below the standard in effect when he or she was selected, he or she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the cumulative GPA remains below standard at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council, which may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 3--If a member fails to perform any of the published obligations of membership, he or she will be given a written warning and a time period for improvement. If the obligation remains unmet at the end of the warning period, the student will be subject to further disciplinary action by the Faculty Council, which may include dismissal from the chapter.

Section 4--Violation of the law or school regulations can result in disciplinary action and/or dismissal of a member.

Section 5--Offenders of the school conduct code will receive written warning notification. A conference may be requested by either party (Faculty Council, student, or parent). If the member is involved in another violation of the school conduct code, the member may be considered for dismissal. Section 6--In all cases of pending dismissal: a. The member will receive written notification indicating the reason for possible dismissal from the adviser or Faculty Council. The member and advisor will discuss the written notification in a conference.

Situations that involve flagrant violations of school rules or the law can warrant disciplinary action without a written warning although a hearing must still be held (see below). b. The member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charge against him or her at a hearing before the Faculty Council prior to the vote on dismissal.

The Faculty Council will then vote on whether to dismiss. A majority vote of the Faculty Council is needed to dismiss any member. c. The results of the Faculty Council vote will be reviewed by the principal and then, if confirmed, expressed in a letter sent to the student, parents, and principal. Dismissed members must surrender any membership emblems to the adviser. d. The Faculty Council's decision may be appealed to the building principal and afterwards through the school district discipline policy. e. When a student is dismissed or resigns, he or she is no longer a member and may not be reconsidered for membership in the National Honor Society.

Section 7--In lieu of dismissal, the Faculty Council may impose disciplinary sanctions upon a member as deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

Section 1--The officers of the chapter shall be president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Section

2--Student officers shall be elected at the last meeting of each school year. All returning active members are eligible to run for a position as an officer. All active members of the chapter are eligible to vote.

Section 3--A majority vote shall be necessary to elect any officer of this chapter. If the first vote does not yield a majority, a second vote shall be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes. Section 4--It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings for this chapter and work with the advisor in all chapter activities.

Section 5--The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president and shall also keep a record of members' contributions to chapter activities, along with other duties as assigned by the advisor. Section 6--The secretary shall keep the minutes of meetings and be responsible for all official chapter correspondence, along with other duties assigned by the advisor.

Section 7--The treasurer shall keep the record of chapter expenses and income, and all other financial

transactions of the chapter, along with other duties as assigned by the advisor.

Section 8 – Should any officer not satisfy the duties of their office, to the satisfaction of the chapter advisor, he or she may be removed from the office.

ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1--The executive committee shall consist of the faculty advisor and the chapter officers. Section 2--The executive committee shall have general charge of the meetings and the business of the chapter, but any action by the executive committee is subject to the review of the chapter members.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 1--Meetings of this chapter shall be monthly, unless announced otherwise. Section 2--This chapter shall conduct its meetings according to *Robert's Rules of Order*. Section 3--All chapter members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled chapter meetings. Members not in attendance must be excused by the advisor and supply documentation requested.

ARTICLE VIII: ACTIVITIES

Section 1--The chapter shall determine one or more service projects for each school year. Section 2--All members shall regularly participate in these projects. Members not participating must be excused by the advisor and supply documentation requested.

Section 3--These projects shall have the following characteristics: fulfill a need within the school or community; have the support of the administration and the advisor; be appropriate and educationally defensible; and be well-planned, organized, and executed.

Section 4--The chapter shall publicize its projects in a positive manner.

ARTICLE IX: EMBLEM

Section 1--Each member of this chapter who is in good standing with regard to the membership standards and member obligations shall have the privilege of wearing the emblem adopted by the National Honor Society.

Section 2--Any member who withdraws, resigns, or is dismissed from the chapter shall return the emblem to the chapter.

Section 3--Chapter members who are seniors in good standing shall be granted the privilege of wearing the honor stoles at graduation.

ARTICLE X: POWERS

Section 1--The chapter advisor is given the authority to supervise the administration of chapter activities, as delegated by the school principal.

Section 2--The principal shall reserve the right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter. Section

3--These bylaws are designed to amplify provisions of the national constitution and cannot contradict any components thereof. The chapter is obligated to adhere to the provisions of the national constitution in all activities it undertakes.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1--These Bylaws must be approved by the Faculty Council, with the approval of the principal. Section 2 -- These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Faculty Council, with the approval of the principal.

Section 3-- The amendment change will rewrite that section of the Article of the Bylaws and the ratification date will be revised.

Section 4--Bylaws and amendments must be consistent with the constitution of the National Honor Society.

OAP:

One Act Play

Purpose of This Contract

Participation in the BHS OAP program is both a privilege and a responsibility. This contract outlines the rules, expectations, and standards students must meet to remain eligible for participation in theatre productions and consideration for a Scholarship.

Scholarship Eligibility and Fundraising

To be eligible for a Scholarship, the student must maintain good standing in the theatre program, fulfill all participation requirements, demonstrate professionalism and responsibility, and complete the full production process. From the audition to the final strike, students will participate in all that the production might require. Most importantly, Fundraising. Our scholarships are not guaranteed without it. Students will be required to sell ads for our program and participate with our Dinner Theatre Fundraiser, and seek donations for our Silent Auction..

Attendance Expectations

Students must attend ALL rehearsals, performances, and required meetings. Excessive absences or tardiness may result in removal from the production and scholarship disqualification. 2 Unexcused absences will result in program removal. Students must provide conflict dates as soon as this contract is returned. I understand that unexpected situations may occur. If that should be the case, parents must notify the director or High School office of situations. ATTENDANCE IS EVERYTHING.

Behavior & Conduct Expectations

Students are expected to demonstrate respectful, honest, professional behavior at all times. Disruptive behavior, insubordination, or harassment of any kind may result in disciplinary action, removal from program and loss of scholarship eligibility. It is imperative that all students work professionally with each other. Any sign of discord will prompt removal from the program. We have too much to focus on for which no time can be wasted.

Costume, Makeup, Property, and Appearance Responsibility

Students are responsible for assigned costumes, makeup, props, and theatre property. Damage, loss, or refusal to comply with costume and makeup guidelines may result in removal from the production, added to their senior owe list, or scholarship disqualification. Students will respect personal belongings and WILL NOT touch what is not theirs for any reasons. Students will not cut, dye, color their hair nor make personal changes that might conflict with their character description and appearance. If changes need to be made the director must be notified.

Academic & School Standing

Students must remain academically eligible at all times. Students will follow the BISD student code of conduct, UIL handbook, and expectations set forth by our administration. Failure to do so will result in removal from the program and scholarship eligibility.

FFA (New Section to handbook)

FFA CODE OF CONDUCT

FFA members should conduct themselves at all times to be a credit to their organization, family, chapter, school, and community.

OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE FOR AGRICULTURE SCIENCE STUDENTS AND FFA MEMBERS

As a student enrolled in the Brackett Agriculture Science Program, your child has the opportunity to become an active member of the Brackett FFA chapter. This is a group of young people who use agriculture to learn leadership, speaking and communication skills, teamwork, responsibility, and technical skills. While the FFA is based in agriculture, there are many activities to become a part of that *do not* require working with animals or agriculture.

In the fall, FFA members compete in FFA Leadership Development Events (LDEs) such as SKills demonstrations, agricultural issues forums, parliamentary procedure, public relations, job interviews, and many other speaking and leadership type events. Most animal projects are also started in the fall months and are called FFA Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs).

During springtime FFA members start to prepare for Career Development Events (CDEs).

These include: livestock evaluation, equine evaluation, wildlife management, poultry evaluation, dairy products identification, dairy cattle evaluation, sales and service, and several more speaking events such as prepared public and extemporaneous speaking. The speaking competitions take place in late spring and are called Speaking Development Events (SDEs).

During the spring FFA members travel to many locations throughout the state for competitions.

January through March also brings several livestock shows for animal project competitions and ag mechanics.

Through the years agricultural education has changed from training young men for a career in farming to a dynamic, progressive way to teach all students the value of leadership and teamwork to achieve success. Agriculture is the most important industry in the world - without the ability to feed people, the United States would not be the world power it is. The FFA also offers many large scholarships for highly active members.

It is our sincere hope that your student will take full advantage of the unbelievable activities & opportunities available through these courses and the FFA organization. There is an opportunity for every type of student in the FFA. We encourage both parents and students to join our **Remind app** for updates and important information. You can ask an advisor to add you or simply add the code below for approval.

REMIND CODE: @c62ac3 text to 81010

COURSES:

AG MECHANICS

Ag Mechanics Students are able to learn the three different types of welding/cutting methods(Oxyacetylene cutting, SMAW, and MIG). They will learn the safety procedures of shop safety. They will be able to create hands-on projects throughout the year. As well, students have an opportunity to enroll their project in the Kinney Junior livestock show in the Ag mechanics category. They are also eligible to receive a Welding Certification through the American Welding Society(AWS) through ag mechanics classes offered here on campus!

(For more information contact Mr. Abbey)

ANIMAL SCIENCE:

Principles of agriculture (This is the introductory course for both Animal Science & Ag Mechanics Pathways offered at BISD) For our Middle school they will receive a high school credit for this course.

- Equine science/ Small animal management - Courses change with the semester
- Livestock Production
- Advance Animal Science or Practicum- Animal Science (You will receive a certification in Veterinary Medical Applications)

(*For more information on these courses contact Miss. Garza)

GENERAL RULES

Each student enrolled in an agriculture science class is encouraged to join the Local, District, Area and National FFA Organization (FFA). Students' dues will be paid by the chapter. Students who do not join FFA are not eligible to participate in any FFA activity, judging contest, livestock show, or for scholarship consideration. All members are encouraged to attend all FFA meetings and activities. Parents are also encouraged to begin,join and participate in booster club activities.

Any student with frequent discipline issues can be removed from the program if they are involved with ISS or DAEP. Students must be **University Interscholastic League (UIL) eligible** to compete in any component of the Brackett FFA .**Students must be passing at all times in order to attend any trips, stockshows or competitions .**

CODE OF ETHICS

Agriculture science students will honor the FFA Code of Ethics. Failure to comply with the code of ethics will result in removal from the program. Students will conduct themselves at all times in a manner benefiting their organization, chapter, school and community by:

- 1. Dressing neatly and appropriately for the occasion.**
- 2. Showing respect for the rights of others and being courteous.**
- 3. Being honest and not taking unfair advantage of others.**
- 4. Respecting the property of others.**
- 5. Refraining from loud, boisterous talk, swearing, and other unbecoming conduct.**

6. **Demonstrating sportsmanship in the show ring, judging contests, and meetings.**
7. **Attending meetings promptly and respecting the opinion of others in discussions.**
8. **Taking pride in the Brackett FFA.**

FFA OFFICER TEAM

The Brackett FFA hosts officer elections during the month of April . To become an officer in the Brackett FFA, students must be in good academic standing.

Scores are taken with the following factors taking into consideration:

Core teacher evaluations, an interview with a 3 person panel, an application score, a chapter vote and balloting, and a FFA knowledge test score. Absentee ballots are not permitted. Members must be present on balloting day to vote. The incoming FFA officers will be installed at the FFA Banquet which is held in the month of May. **All officers must participate in a CDE, SDE & LDE!** They must present themselves in a proper manner and be an active member of our organization. If the current officer does not participate he/she will be removed from the officer team. Must be a junior or senior to be president for the upcoming year. (Refer to the Brackett FFA Officer Contract)

FFA HOMECOMING

Criteria

Highest Senior officers earn the right to be nominated and run for homecoming court. If there is only one male & one female officer who wants to run they will represent us at homecoming. If there are no senior officers who want to run then the floor is open to nominations.

FFA LETTER JACKET CRITERIA

In order to qualify to letter on a letterman jacket, FFA members must obtain one of the following goals:

place top three in area or be a state qualifier in a Leadership Development Event, qualify for state, or if automatically qualified, be top ten in the state in a Career Development Event, qualify for state in a Speaking Development Event, place top three in the state in the Agriscience Fair, received the honor of Grand or Reserved Grand Champion of the show at County or Major shows with livestock project, received the Grand or Reserve Grand Champion of the Kinney County Junior Livestock Show with an agricultural mechanics project, or place in their division at Major Shows with an agricultural mechanics project.

The letterman is the financial responsibility of the student and their family.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Hours earned through organizations that primarily benefit Brackett ISD students in their classes (Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior, & Senior classes) or other organizations, **will not count** toward the Community Service Award. **Hours will be taken as a TEST grade at the end of each semester** as the FFA portion of agriculture education 3- circle model that consists of (SAE or SUPERVISED AGRICULTURE EXPERIENCE, FFA, CLASSROOM/LABORATORY INSTRUCTION)

Members should maintain accurate records of all service activities and submit documentation by the established deadline. **Deadline:** The Friday before all grades are due at the end of the year. If the log is lost, another log will NOT be given to the student. The student may write down all their information on another sheet of paper for a 20 point deduction. If the log is incomplete and NO hours are completed a 40 point deduction will be given as a TEST grade.

GOLDEN SPUR AWARD *Brackett FFA Community Service Award*

To be eligible for the Brackett FFA Community Service Award, members must meet the following requirements:

- Completes the most verified community service hours
- Maintains good standing in the chapter
- Participates in multiple chapter activities
- Displays the FFA motto of “Living to Serve”
- No major behavior issues during the school year (ISS or DAEP assignments may result in disqualification).
- Complete a minimum of **30 hours** of community service
- Submit a **service log** documenting all volunteer hours for verification listing each hour or must log into AET.COM. (Agriculture Experience Tracker) *** Get with an Ag teacher to log in***

The service log must include:

1. Description of service
2. Initials of an AG teacher
3. A REPUTABLE phone number AND email for easy contact by AG teachers to confirm validity.
4. Service Log must be created by the student.

Hours earned through organizations that primarily benefit Brackett ISD students in their classes (Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior, & Senior classes) or other organizations, **will not count** toward the Community Service Award. If credibly earned, this award will be presented at our Annual FFA Banquet.

Members should maintain accurate records of all service activities and submit documentation by the established deadline. **Deadline:** The Friday before all grades are due at the end of the year.

****This keeps the award attainable while still recognizing exceptional service. ***

Examples of Eligible Hours but NOT limited to (hours MUST be approved by AG Teacher)

- *Community cleanups*
- *Helping at local livestock shows*
- *Food drives*
- *Church or civic organization service projects*

- *Bloom Bar community events*
- *Assisting elderly community members*
- *School beautification projects*
- *Volunteer work at community festivals and fairs*

Note: Community service hours are subject to approval by the Brackett FFA Advisors.

LIVESTOCK PROJECTS

Students enrolled in the Agriculture Science Program are eligible to participate in the livestock project program. Students may purchase animal projects to care for during the school year and exhibit those animals at stock shows. These projects allow students to take on responsibility while having the opportunity to practice the skills learned in class and maybe even earn a little money. Animal projects are not mandatory so the following questions should be considered when determining if a student will participate in the animal project part of the program:

The student must be able to afford their animal. Sponsorship for swine is available (contact Miss. Garza -Due Date for the application is given out in the summer). The student must know where to keep their animal. BISD has an AG Barn that is open to swine, lambs, and goats. (Contact Central Office for a Barn Agreement and contract). The student must have reliable transportation to and from where their animals are housed to provide daily care. We, the BISD AG Dept., have trailers that can haul animals. AG teachers must be notified at least a month or two in advance. BISD AG Teachers are **not obligated** to haul livestock. If an ag teacher wants to volunteer their time, they may. Each student must have a ‘game plan’ for when they are out of town or unable to attend to their animal. AG teachers will not feed or exercise an animal for a student.

Please keep in mind animal projects are a gamble and can become a total monetary loss. Animals can be hurt, fatally injured, or become sick and not recover. **The risk can be reduced by hard work and desire to learn and apply knowledge!**

AG BARN RULES FFA BRACKETT ISD AGRICULTURAL FARM

ANIMAL HOUSING CONTRACT

The purpose of this contract is to standardize the Rules and Regulations concerning livestock housing at the BISD Agricultural Farm in a written agreement. The endorsements of the student and their parent/guardian reflect a contract between the student, the parent/guardian, the FFA Chapter, 4-H Chapter and the Independent Schools District. Their signatures reflect a written agreement of the rules and regulations concerning the Agricultural Farm. All students using the facility must have a signed contract turned in to their agricultural science teacher. The use of the Farm is a student privilege.

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. Animals may be moved into the barn only with prior permission of the instructors specifically by the Ag Advisor. Prior to arrival all students and parents must have a signed contract and policy and rules

document on file in the agriculture program. No animal may enter or be housed at the Agricultural Farm without the permission of BISD agricultural science teacher (AST).

2. Pens that housed market animals must be vacated, cleaned and have any locks removed two weeks after their final show. Locks not removed by the deadlines will be cut off. **Open grazing of animals is not allowed.**
3. Each student will be allowed a maximum of 2 animals of the same species per pen **if** the AST has approved at all times.
4. Students are responsible for personal equipment. (*Write your name on everything*)
5. No animals shall be housed in the barn for more than 9 months. All animals must be removed, pens cleaned, equipment and feed moved out within 15 days following completion of the last major show **unless approved** by AST. Only students and immediate relatives with animal projects from BISD will be allowed on the premises.
6. Students are required to attend all Barn clean up for ALL species and are dismissed when all duties have been completed. Students will be dismissed by the AG Teacher.
7. Animals are to be fed properly, usually twice a day, unless instructed differently by the AST. Students are to do **their own work with their individual animal project.** **In the event a student is leaving town for longer than 3 days, it is their responsibility to get a written/emailed plan submitted to their instructor of how the animal will be cared for prior to their leaving the responsibility with anyone other than themselves.**
8. Students shall maintain their livestock pens in a clean and presentable fashion at ALL times. Pens shall be monitored and cleaned as needed daily. Manure is to be disposed of properly in designated areas. Cleaning equipment must be stored properly in designated areas.
9. Students **shall not move another student's animal or a FFA program animal without prior permission.** Instructors shall move animals at any time as needed for barn management purposes. Students also need to refrain from feeding other students animals unless permission has been granted by the owner and a written statement of plan has been provided.
10. Vehicles shall only be parked in the front of the barn. *Do not block any gates.*
11. Students shall use school equipment safely and properly and return it to its storage location after each use. Students must identify and maintain maintenance issues or broken equipment to instructors **ASAP.**
12. **Animal restrictions:** uncastrated male animals of any species over 3 months unless used in a learning lab approved by the instructor. **Any animal deemed to have poor disposition will be removed by the student after the first request and within 24 hours.** Housing is on a space available and appropriate basis. SAE projects/FFA members will be given 1st priority.
13. Students shall be responsible for removing their animals for euthanasia when deemed necessary. Instructors will **NOT** euthanize or dispose of animal carcasses.
14. No loitering of students not in BISD property, gaming or horse playing on the premises. **Any student bringing guests into the school farm facility must notify the advisors prior to having them arrive!**
15. No SPRAYING OF CHEMICALS UNLESS the AG teacher has been notified of the substance, times of application, and location of application.
16. Pets are **NOT** allowed on the premises.
17. Students will follow any specific instructions given to them by any of the AST or County Extension Agent regarding their pen, their animal, or the premises.
18. If you are housing animals on the farm you are required to be showing these animals under the above FFA Chapters and 4-H chapter and no other club.
19. AG advisors \will NOT administer any medications to the student's project unless parental permission is granted in written form.

Students will be asked to remove their animals from the barn for the following reasons:

- o Animals not being properly cared for.
- o Failure to adhere to vaccination schedule.
- o Uncooperative or disrespectful behavior of student, parent, or guests with ANY instructor or school district employee
- o Failure to handle safety procedures in handling animals or equipment.
- o Graduation or failure to maintain enrollment or satisfactory grade of “C” or better in any class for more than 2 consecutive 6 weeks.
- o PDA, vandalism, theft, destruction of equipment, feed, or supplies found at the barn complex.
- o **OR any heinous acts or animal cruelty.**
- o Other reasons as deemed suitable by AST and administration.

Steps for animals to be removed:

1. **Receiving 2 verbal warnings from instructor.**
2. **Phone call stating that you need to remove your animal from the barn premises within 24 hours of the phone call OR have your animal repurchased from the school at current market value** (this applies only if the student is under a sponsorship).

FEED RULES

Students must provide their own feed inventory. Students must maintain records of expense and income of all livestock SAE projects involved within our facility. These records must be available upon request from either instructor within 24 hours of the request.

Students who store feed at the barn do so at their own risk.

Feed must be kept off the ground in a mouse/rodent resistant closed container at all times (Example 15 gallon tote); Absolutely no open feed sacks. Refer to **Rule #7**, concerning feeding when out of town.

Students will respect other students’ property/feed and will not take what is not yours

The Agricultural Farm is the property of the Brackett Independent School District and all rules and regulations of the school district apply. Violations of any of the rules or regulations either brought to a student's attention verbally or written by any of the agricultural science teachers may result in disciplinary action.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

It is hoped that disciplinary action will not be necessary, but it will be readily used to maintain a quality-learning environment and maintain the integrity of the FFA Chapter or by the Brackett Independent School District. Discipline will include a (1st offense) Student Written reprimand, (2nd offense) teacher, parent, student meeting, (3rd offense) permanent revocation of Agricultural Farm Facility privilege.

PURCHASING OF LIVESTOCK PROJECTS

1. The selection and purchase of an animal project is a cooperative effort involving the student, parent, and teacher. The agriculture teacher's role is to help you find the best animal possible in the price range set. The teacher will not dictate what to buy, how much to spend, or where to purchase from.

2. The purchase of projects should be coordinated with the teacher before projects are selected and purchased.
3. The student and parent are responsible for the cost of the animal as well as feed and veterinary care.
4. Projects purchased must meet the requirements of the show intended. The teacher will assist in providing the necessary information regarding the care and grooming of projects for each show.
5. The student is responsible for validations and entries at all shows. There are fees involved with validation and the entering of each show.
6. In the event a check is returned for non-sufficient funds, only cash or a cashier's check will be accepted for project payment.

Deadlines for livestock ownership (*REFER TO KCJLS RULES FOR VALIDATION DATES*).

KCJLS SHOW VARIES EVERY YEAR PER BOARD (REFER TO KCJLS RULES)

SPONSORSHIP/PROCEDURES

If a student is interested in a sponsorship, the district sponsorship application must be submitted to the FFA Advisor. If a student advances to a major show and is eligible for a monetary award, 50% of earnings will be retained by the sponsored student that may have earned the monetary award.

Brackett FFA Ag Mechanics Program

Building Skills, Leadership, and Pride in South Texas

Being a member of the Brackett FFA Ag Mechanics Program is more than just building projects, it is about developing real-world skills, strong work habits, leadership abilities, and pride in representing our school and community. Located in the small rural town of Brackettville, Texas, our students learn the value of hard work, dedication, and craftsmanship while preparing for future careers in agriculture, industry, and skilled trades.

What is Ag Mechanics?

Agricultural Mechanics combines hands-on learning with technical knowledge. Students gain experience in:

- Welding and Metal Fabrication
- Woodworking and Construction
- Agricultural Equipment Operation and Repair
- Electrical Systems
- Design and Project Planning
- Tool Identification and Safety
- Problem-solving and Critical Thinking

Through classroom instruction and shop experiences, students learn skills that can be used for a lifetime.

Ag Mechanics Project Shows

Brackett FFA members have the opportunity to design, build, and exhibit projects at some of Texas' most competitive livestock and agricultural mechanics shows. Students often construct:

- Utility Trailers
- BBQ Pits
- Outdoor Furniture
- Hay Feeders
- Headache racks
- Patio Sets
- Home Convenience projects
- Custom Metal and Woodworking Projects

Projects are exhibited at county, major, and statewide agricultural mechanics shows where students compete against some of the best programs in Texas.

Preparing for the Future

The skills learned through Ag Mechanics can lead to careers in:

- Welding
- Construction
- Agricultural Engineering
- Manufacturing
- Diesel Technology
- Equipment Maintenance
- Ranch and Farm Management
- Industrial Trades

Many students also earn industry-recognized certifications that provide opportunities immediately after high school.

Representing Brackett with Pride

As a member of the Brackett FFA Ag Mechanics Program, students represent their school, families, and community every time they step into the shop or compete at a show. Success in Ag Mechanics requires commitment, teamwork, determination, and a willingness to learn from challenges.

In a small rural South Texas town, our Ag Mechanics students continue a tradition of hard work and excellence while building projects, friendships, and skills that will last a lifetime.

AWS Welding Certifications Through Brackett FFA Ag Mechanics

What is an AWS Welding Certification?

The American Welding Society (AWS) is the leading organization for welding standards and certifications in the United States. AWS welding certifications are recognized by employers nationwide

and demonstrate that a welder has the skills and knowledge necessary to produce quality welds that meet industry standards.

At Brackett FFA, students have the opportunity to prepare for and test for industry-recognized welding certifications while enrolled in Agricultural Mechanics courses.

Why Earn an AWS Certification?

An AWS certification provides students with a competitive advantage when entering the workforce, trade school, military, apprenticeship programs, or college.

Benefits include:

- Industry-recognized credentials
- Increased employment opportunities
- Higher earning potential
- Verification of welding skills
- Greater confidence in the workplace
- A strong addition to résumés and job applications

Many employers actively seek certified welders because they know the individual has demonstrated their ability to perform welds that meet established standards.

Certifications Available

Brackett FFA Ag Mechanics students prepare for certifications that may include:

- AWS D1.1 Structural Steel Welding
- AWS D9.1 Sheet Metal Welding
- SMAW (Stick Welding)
- GMAW (MIG Welding)
- FCAW (Flux-Core Welding)
- Various welding positions and joint configurations

Students spend countless hours practicing welding procedures, blueprint reading, welding symbols, safety, and proper welding techniques before attempting certification tests.

How Students Earn Certification

To become AWS certified, students must:

1. Complete classroom and shop instruction.
2. Demonstrate safe welding practices.
3. Practice welding procedures to industry standards.
4. Successfully complete required weld tests.
5. Pass visual inspections and/or bend tests as required by the certification standard.

Once all requirements are met, students earn documentation verifying their certification qualifications.

Accessing AWS Certifications After Receiving Them

After successfully earning an AWS certification, students can access and verify their credentials through the American Welding Society.

Students should:

1. Create or maintain an account with the AWS Certification Portal.
2. Keep copies of all certification documents and test records.
3. Use their certification information when applying for jobs, internships, apprenticeships, or technical schools.
4. Verify certification status through AWS when requested by employers.

AWS certifications remain valuable credentials that can follow students throughout their welding careers. Maintaining accurate records and understanding renewal requirements helps ensure certifications remain current and active.

Career Opportunities

AWS-certified welders are in demand across many industries, including:

- Structural Steel Construction
- Manufacturing
- Oil and Gas
- Pipeline Construction
- Agricultural Equipment Repair
- Heavy Equipment Manufacturing
- Fabrication Shops
- Aerospace
- Shipbuilding

Certified welders often have access to more employment opportunities and can advance more quickly within their chosen field.

Building a Strong Future

The Brackett FFA Ag Mechanics Program is committed to preparing students for success beyond high school. Through AWS certification opportunities, students gain valuable technical skills, industry credentials, and real-world experience that can open doors to rewarding careers in welding and the skilled trades.

FFA OFFICIAL DRESS

Official dress is needed for certain competitions, and events. This is optional! If you wish to run for an FFA officer position, you will need full FFA Official Dress attire!

We will order FFA Jackets at the beginning of the school year! FFA jackets are \$80.00

Male Official Dress

Black dress pants. (No jeans - blue or black, leather, pleather, etc.) White dress shirt and official FFA tie. Black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe.

Female Official Dress

White collared blouse and official FFA blue scarf. Black dress shoes with a closed heel and toe (No boots, sandals, open-toed shoes, or tennis shoes.) Black color nylon hosiery. Official FFA jacket zipped to the top and tucked in.

Items can be purchased at <https://shopffa.org/products> or a department store of choice.

General Reminders/ Information:

- A field trip to the sale barn (in Uvalde through Miss. Garza's classes) will be held in **September or when determined in class.**
- Dog food drive/Food drive,TSC Market Days..etc throughout the year may change as we come up with ideas at our chapter meetings on volunteer work.
- Brackett FFA will participate in the **Homecoming Parade** to represent our chapter and build community presence.
- These activities may change throughout the year. Students and parents will be notified at least one week in advance of any events/competitions.
- Not all stock show information is included here. Please contact one of the advisors for questions regarding dates or processes for stock show items.
- **Monthly officer meetings** will be followed by **chapter meetings.**
- ALL STUDENTS/ MEMBERS are **REQUIRED** to complete COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS EACH semester for a TEST GRADE.
- A log will be given on the first week of school with examples
- Community Service Forms are due the **FRIDAY BEFORE grades are due!!**
- The Golden Spur Award (Buckle) will be awarded to the student excelling in community service hours and per completion of requirements.

BRACKETT ISD AGRICULTURE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT & FFA CONSENT FORM AND PERMISSION FORM

TRANSPORTATION CONSENT: Throughout the academic year, there will be opportunities for student travel, with the number of available seats determining how many students can attend. Good classroom behavior is essential to be considered for these trips. Students and guardians must complete a Permission to Participate Form prior to any travel; this form only needs to be filled out once and will

remain in the student's file for the rest of the year. The main destinations of travel will be 4-H office, Civic Center, and BISD AG BARN. Notice of Travel Forms/Field Trip Forms will be sent to guardians at least one week prior to any planned travel.

It is often necessary for an agriculture science teacher to provide transportation for a student enrolled in ag classes for the purpose of participation in school sponsored activities, to check animal projects or for other reasons dealing with school business. Activities may occur before, during, or after school hours. By agreeing to the statement below, you hereby release the teacher and the BISD from any liability in case of accident while involved in such.

PROJECT SELECTION AND PURCHASING CONSENT: Students choosing to purchase an animal project selected by the teacher will require funds upfront. Every effort will be made to purchase the breed of animal desired by the student and to have the student participate in the buying process. However, the agriculture science teacher reserves the right to select the breed of animal based on availability and cost. Students will be allowed to indicate their breed preference at the beginning of the year. Students who wish to only have the teacher supervise their purchase may indicate that as well.

AGRICULTURE SCIENCE POLICY HANDBOOK AGREEMENT: Every student and parent is responsible for reading and adhering to all policies and procedures outlined in the Brackett Agriculture Science Program Handbook which is provided to each student at the beginning of each year. By signing below you are indicating that you have read and understand the rules and regulations in the handbook. You agree to abide by the rules and policies set forth in the handbook.

*** NOTE: A Form will be provided to FFA members for all activities in Brackett FFA; in addition FFA officers will also be required to submit FFA Officer Contract that includes duties and expectations. .

Extracurricular FORMS:

Athletic, Band, OAP, Cheer, NHS, FFA, and UIL forms will be printed off for students/parents to sign and return.

Attached you will find an acknowledgement form for this Extracurricular Handbook that is the only form from this packet to separate and return to your coach/sponsor prior to participation.

BRACKETT ISD ATHLETIC QUIT FORM

**I, _____, have decided, after careful consideration to my coaches and
(print name)
teammates to quit _____. I have been given a 2-Day (48 hour) period to fully
(list sport)
evaluate my decision. I feel that is the best decision for me and my teammates. I understand that I cannot**

participate in practices or contests in any sport for 60 school days. I understand that by quitting again, I

will most likely forfeit any future participation in BISD athletics after a 60-Day school window and return date has been established.

Athlete Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Head Coach Signature: _____

Athletic Director Signature: _____

Signed and Dated: _____

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF BRACKETT ISD EXTRACURRICULAR HANDBOOK

This page is to be removed from the Extracurricular Handbook, signed by both the parent and student. Once complete, the form should be returned to the Sponsor/Coach. This must be done prior to any competition in the 2026-2027 School Year.

I have received and read the 2026-2027 Brackett ISD Extracurricular Handbook. I understand and agree that in order to participate in extracurricular activities at BISD, I must comply with the policies stated in the handbook. By signing this acknowledgment form, I am also consenting to being randomly drug tested.

Failure to consent will forfeit my right to participate.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____ Student-

Athlete Signature: _____ Date: _____

In case of conflict between the Sponsor's/Coach's Department Manual and Board Policy or the Student Code of Conduct, the Student Code of Conduct will prevail.

No student shall be denied the right to participate in any school program because of the student's race, religion, color, sex, or national origin. "No qualified handicapped person shall, on the basis of handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity which receives or benefits from Federal financial assistance." Under section 504, complaints must be handled through established channels and procedures beginning with the building principal, followed by appeal to the 504 District Coordinator, the Superintendent or his/her designee, and finally the Board of Trustees.

General Information: PLEASE PRINT

Student Name- _____

Parent Name- _____

Address- _____

City- _____

Home Phone- _____

Cell Phone- _____

Email Address- _____