SPECTATOR CONDUCT AT ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

School athletic activities are an important part of the school program and offer students the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities not offered during the regular school day. School athletic activities are provided for the enjoyment and for the opportunity they afford the students.

Spectators are permitted to attend school athletic activities only as guests of the school district, and, accordingly as a condition of such permission, they must comply with the school district’s rules and policies. Spectators will not be allowed to interfere with the enjoyment of the students participating, other spectators, or with the performance of employees and officials supervising the school athletic activity. Spectators, like the student participants, are expected to display mature behavior and sportsmanship. The failure of spectators to do so is not only disruptive but embarrassing to the students, the school district, and the entire community.

To protect the rights of students to participate without fear of interference, and to permit the sponsors and officials of school athletic activities to perform their duties without interference, the following provisions are in effect:

1. Abusive, verbal or physical conduct of spectators, of any type, directed at participants, officials, or sponsors of school athletic activities will not be tolerated.

2. Verbal or physical conduct of spectators that interferes with the performance of students, officials, or sponsors of school athletic activities will not be tolerated.

3. The use of vulgar, or obscene or demeaning expression language directed at students, officials, or sponsors participating in school athletic activities, or at other spectators, will not be tolerated.

If a spectator at a school athletic activity becomes physically or verbally abusive, uses vulgar, obscene demeaning expression, or in any way impedes the performance of an activity, the spectator may be removed immediately from the event by the individual in charge of the event and the Milford School District Superintendent may recommend the exclusion of the spectator at future activities.
Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, the Milford School District Board of Education may cause a notice of exclusion from school athletic activities to be sent to the spectator involved. The notice shall advise the spectator of the school district’s right to exclude the individual from school district activities and events and the duration of the exclusion. If the spectator disobeys the school official or district’s order, law enforcement authorities may be contacted and asked to remove the spectator. If a spectator has been notified of exclusion and thereafter attends a school athletic activity, the spectator shall be advised that his/her attendance will result in prosecution. The school district may obtain a court order for permanent exclusion from future school athletic activities.

ADOPTED: 07/07/08