

# BULLARD HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL POLICIES 2020

Welcome to Panther Country!

It is our goal to continue to build and maintain a successful high school football program at Bullard High School. One of the key ingredients for success is discipline, and we want to communicate our expectations for the athletes that wish to be a part of the program at BHS. Obviously it would be close to impossible to cover every situation that might arise, and what disciplinary measures would follow. Every situation and every child is unique and deserves individual consideration and fair attention. Most simply put, although several important concepts are listed below, the most important rule in every area of Panther Football is **DO THE RIGHT THING. Always. No matter what. Just do what you know to be right.**

Please understand that participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right. We expect our athletes to be model students and citizens in the community, as we believe their behavior is a direct reflection upon our program, our school, and all of our families. We ask and expect that every athlete make a constant effort to project a positive, respectful image.

## EXCUSED ABSENCE

An athlete is considered to have an excused absence if a parent/guardian calls the field house to notify one of the BHS coaches on or before the day the athlete is absent. The phone number for the field house is **903-894-2850**. If no coach is available to answer, leaving a message or speaking with the secretary is acceptable. The most important issue is communication between parents and staff if an athlete will not be present.

## UNEXCUSED ABSENCE

An athlete is considered to have an unexcused absence if there is no phone call to the coaches' office or field house on the day that the absence occurs. If an athlete checks out of school early, it is his responsibility to communicate with one of the football coaches in order to make them aware of the early dismissal and absence. Calling the school and asking them to let the coaches know an athlete will miss practice is *not* acceptable. The office staff remains very busy throughout the day, and they will not call the coaches about an early dismissal. The parent/guardian must take care of this and call the field house at **903-894-2850**. *Please do not call a coach on his private cell phone number.*

## TARDY

An athlete is considered tardy if he is not in his roll check assignment or not present as a team meeting begins. If a teacher keeps a student after the bell, a note or pass from the teacher should be provided in order for the late arrival to be excused.

## DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

### UNEXCUSED ABSENCE

An athlete that has an unexcused absence will receive one Reminder for each time they are absent. Athletes with chronic unexcused absences will be removed from the program.

### TARDY / LATE ARRIVALS

Our time as a team is limited and valuable to each team member. An athlete that is tardy will receive twenty-five up downs after practice for the first minute he is late. An additional 10 up downs will be done for every minute after the first minute he is late. Chronic unexcused tardies will result in removal from the program.

### FAILING ACADEMIC CLASSES:

There will be grade checks at the end of each three week grading period. Students who are failing a class, or in danger of doing so, will be expected to attend tutorial services if at all available. Our athletes should be aware of the importance of each academic class, and the coaching staff will be as supportive as possible in order to help students succeed. However, chronic failure of academic classes

will result in removal from the program. Of course, any athlete failing classes will not be able to participate in UIL sporting events.

#### IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION OR AEP PLACEMENT

Athletes will receive one Reminder for each day served in ISS or AEP. We expect our athletes to model appropriate and respectful behavior to one another, to their teachers, and those in the community. Each athlete's behavior reflects on the team as a whole.

#### TEACHER COMPLAINTS / POOR CLASSROOM CONDUCT

Again, the behavior of each student athlete reflects upon the team as a whole. As participation in athletics remains a privilege, we believe our students are held to a higher standard of conduct. They should be seen as models for the student body. Although we are aware that there are times a teacher/student athlete may not be an ideal match, we do expect proper behavior in the classroom and for respect to be shown to the teachers. Athletes will receive a Reminder for each negative classroom issue or teacher complaints. If teacher complaints become a chronic issue, an athlete will be removed from the program. Character counts.

#### RIDING TO/FROM ATHLETIC EVENTS

ALL student athletes must ride the school bus both to and from every football game. The *only* exception to this rule would be some type of family emergency, and can *only* be approved by Coach Callaway.

#### INJURED ATHLETES

Athletes unable to practice due to injuries are still required to dress out in workout attire and attend practice. The spirit of unity and camaraderie that the athletes build throughout the season should not end if one of the players is unable to participate for a time. To allow the "team" concept to continue to grow, injured athletes should continue to report to their position group during practice. All athletes are expected to participate in practice, injured or not, if only to encourage their teammates and continue to learn from the coaches.

#### LOCKERS

Every athlete will receive a locker with a combination lock to store any valuables. The staff must expect that *all* valuable items will be locked up. Athletes will be given basic expectations for locker cleanliness, as well as how to store football equipment, with and without pads. Athletes should make sure to follow all instructions and keep both individual lockers and the overall locker room clean and presentable. The facilities at Bullard are outstanding, and should be taken care of appropriately. Failure to keep equipment properly stored or a continual problem with maintaining locker cleanliness will result in disciplinary actions at the coaches' discretion. *Theft will not be tolerated. Any athlete caught stealing will be removed from the program.*

#### MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

We understand that due to the hours a majority of clinics keep, scheduling medical/dental appointments can be difficult. However, please keep in mind that the time athletes are able to spend in practice is strictly regulated by the state. It is important that our players attend practice every day. During football season or spring football, please make every attempt to schedule appointments at times other than during workout and/or practice times.

#### DISRESPECT

Coaches and players must have an environment of mutual respect. Our coaches respect our players and will always be expected to treat them fairly, honestly, and in a manner that will build a lifetime of positive memories and relationships. Having said that, we must acknowledge that football is a demanding sport. Our coaches will demand the very best that every athlete is able to give. To be the best, our coaches must expect our athletes to give all that they can in order for the program and team to grow and flourish. All of our athletes will be treated in a positive, affirming manner that will treat each student with respect. In return, all members of the coaching staff will expect student athletes to be respectful, be willing to learn, be willing to work hard for the good of all, and be courteous and respectful toward all coaches. Blatant disrespect and/or belligerence toward a coach will be cause for an athlete to be disciplined immediately, including the athlete's removal from the program.

Please read, sign and date the following.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have received a copy of the 2020 Bullard High School Football Policies. Student name (Please print)

I agree to respect and comply with the expectations of these policies, including all disciplinary aspects of the contract. I understand the requirements of the BHS Panther Athletic Program. I understand that participating in football is a privilege and not a right. I agree to work diligently to put in the demanding and difficult work to become part of the Panther team. I also understand that removal from the program is possible if I do not adhere to the above team policies and expectations. I agree to do my very best in order to act in a way that will bring respect to my school, my teammates, and my community.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTACT INFORMATION (Parent Information):**  
Please print clearly!

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT CELL PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_