



**IMPLICATIONS OF MAJOR INFRACTIONS ON THE WELLBEING OF THE
STUDENTS OF MT. EDGECUMBE HIGH SCHOOL**

SUBMITTED BY: MT. EDGECUMBE HIGH SCHOOL EXECUTIVE BOARD

April 22, 2022

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments, that Mt. Edgecumbe High School will bring discussion on changes to our handbook on how to handle major infractions with respect to activities students are involved with.

1. WHEREAS, Mt. Edgecumbe High School has two separate types of infractions: a major infraction and a minor infraction;
2. WHEREAS, Edgecumbe students are strongly encouraged to get involved in a variety of activities throughout their high school career;
3. WHEREAS, according to page 30 of the MEHS student handbook, a major infraction bans offenders from participating in athletic/activity practices & interscholastic activities. This includes Student Council, Basketball, National Honor Society, and many other organizations;
4. WHEREAS, Alaska School Activities Association (ASAA) has 21 days for a student to appeal to the Board of Directors for a decision made by the executive director; (“2021-2022 ASAA Handbook.pages”)
5. WHEREAS, MEHS Student Council has a judiciary process for handling majors in which the student can fight for their spot to remain theirs;

6. WHEREAS, National Honor Society is the only other organization at MEHS to have designated rules for how to handle major infractions so the student is able to fight for their position after receiving a major;
7. WHEREAS, Social isolation is usually defined as the absence of social contact-being cut off from social support networks; such as family, friends, mentors, and in some cases cultural identity; (*The Effects of Social Isolation on Mental Health*, 2020)
8. WHEREAS, Students of Mt. Edgeumbe are already away from their homes, which serve as their support network, with activities being one of their only resources on campus to build a support network away from home;
9. WHEREAS, a student can lose all that they've worked for including the support network built from teammates, coaches, and peers if they receive a major infraction. This causes extreme social isolation;
10. WHEREAS, according to the Newport academy, social isolation can result in the following effects on adolescents: increased stress, insomnia, depression, and anxiety;
11. WHEREAS, notably, the Newport Academy also says that social isolation can result in increased incidence of drug use. This proves that punitive measures against students for major offenses are ineffective, and can actually harm the wellbeing of students;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments supports discussion on being made to the student handbook in relation to the handling of major infractions.

Action Statement: If passed by the General Assembly of AASG this resolution will be brought to MEHS administration, in hopes to change their perspective on major infractions and the way in which they are handled at our school with an emphasis on the impact on Student mental health.

Work Cited

“2021-2022 ASAA Handbook.pages.” *Alaska School Activities Association*, 13 August 2021, <https://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/handbook/2022handbook/asaa/complete/2021-2022-ASAA-Handbook.pdf>. Accessed 22 April 2022.

MEHS Student & Parent Handbook. 2021.

The Effects of Social Isolation on Mental Health. (2020, April 8). Newport Academy.

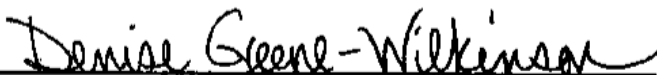
<https://www.newportacademy.com/resources/mental-health/effects-of-social-isolation-on-mental->

[health/#:~:text=However%2C%20it%20can%20also%20have%20a%20negative%20impact](https://www.newportacademy.com/resources/mental-health/effects-of-social-isolation-on-mental-health/#:~:text=However%2C%20it%20can%20also%20have%20a%20negative%20impact)

Passed by the 2022 Spring Conference GA hosted by Kodiak High School



AASG Vice President, Kamea VanDeventer



AASG Executive Director, Denise Greene-Wilkinson