



No Backpack Policy for Oceanside High School Football Games

Policy Statement:

In order to ensure the safety and security of all attendees and maintain a conducive environment for enjoying high school football games, Oceanside High School & RSU 13 has established a policy that prohibits the entry of backpacks into the high school football stadium during events.

Policy Rationale

The decision to implement a no backpack policy is rooted in the following reasons:

- 1. Security and Safety:** Large gatherings such as football games can be potential targets for various security threats. Prohibiting backpacks helps mitigate the risk of unauthorized items being brought into the stadium, reducing the potential for harmful incidents.
- 2. Crowd Management:** A crowded stadium can be challenging to navigate, especially with oversized bags that can obstruct pathways and seating areas. By eliminating backpacks, the flow of foot traffic is improved, enhancing overall crowd safety and management.
- 3. Prevention of Contraband:** The policy prevents the concealment and transport of prohibited items, such as alcohol, drugs, weapons, or other items that could disrupt the event or endanger attendees.
- 4. Efficient Entry:** Stadium staff can more efficiently screen and admit attendees without the added time needed for thorough backpack searches, allowing for a smoother entry process.

Policy Guidelines:

1. **No Backpacks:** Backpacks, large bags, and oversized purses are not permitted inside the high school football stadium during events.
2. **Exceptions:** Small purses, clutches, and clear bags that do not exceed specified dimensions may be allowed following security inspection. The specific dimensions for permissible bags should be communicated in advance.
3. **Security Checkpoints:** Designated security checkpoints will be established at stadium entrances to inspect bags that fit the exceptions listing and enforce the no backpack policy. Security personnel will be present to assist attendees during the inspection process if they feel a search is needed.
4. **Communication:** The no backpack policy will be clearly communicated through various channels, including event tickets, school website, social media, and signage at stadium entrances.
5. **Alternative Storage:** Attendees are encouraged to leave their backpacks at home or in their vehicles. In cases where attendees arrive with backpacks, they may be asked to return the bag to their vehicle or an off-site location before entering the stadium.
6. **Medical Exceptions:** Attendees with medical necessities, such as diaper bags or necessary medical supplies, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and may be allowed entry after proper verification.
7. **Enforcement:** Stadium staff, security personnel, and event organizers will work collaboratively to enforce the no backpack policy. Attendees who attempt to bring prohibited bags into the stadium will be denied entry or asked to return the bag to a secure location.

Policy Review Process

This policy will be periodically reviewed by the school administration and event management to ensure its effectiveness in maintaining a secure and enjoyable environment for all attendees.

By implementing this no backpack policy, Oceanside/RSU 13 aims to create a safer and more enjoyable experience for everyone attending high school football games. Your cooperation and understanding are greatly appreciated.