

TUSCOLA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL

District No. 301
Tuscola, IL 61953

409 S. Prairie Street
PHONE: 217 253-4241
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Aug 8, 2024

Hello Tuscola CUSD #301 Community,

Can you believe the summer has come and gone? The start of the school year is exciting! New adventures await for all who walk through the doors. Each building has been preparing hard for another successful school year. We look forward to continuing our partnership with every student and their household. The new year's excitement is always great to see on everyone's face. We are happy to serve you and your child beginning with Tuesday, August 13, 2024, the first day of school.

The high school auditorium renovation is wrapping up. We are excited to welcome you to our open house on Saturday, August 17, at 7:00 p.m. Sydney Hoel, Tuscola Alumni, will be joined by other Tuscola Alumni performing for your entertainment. Tours of the Auditorium will occur after the performances. We look forward to this celebration and would love to see you at the grand celebration.

A new era of extracurricular activities has come upon us at Tuscola CUSD #301. Junior High Softball and Baseball have started their seasons. We would like to thank the City of Tuscola for helping with the fields and allowing the school district to utilize them for our activities. I encourage you to attend a game and cheer on our junior high students as they participate in softball and baseball.

While encouraging you to attend junior high and high school activities, I would like to remind you that on April 22, 2024, the school board adopted a new Sportsman and Spectator Code of Conduct. The [Code of Conduct](#) is located in our board policy, policy number 8:32, on page 407 of the Board Policy document. Please look at the policy. Our expectation is that you cheer on our students at all activities. I will copy and paste the main part of the policy:

Any person who behaves unsportsmanlike during an athletic or extracurricular event and receives an ejection will initially be denied admittance to ANY school event for 50% of the current season or the next season if less than 50% of the given season remains. A second ejection offense will result in denial of admittance no less than the remainder of the school year to a maximum of a full calendar year. In addition, any fan ejected from a contest shall not be allowed to return to future contests until he/she has completed the NFHS Sportsmanship course online and has presented proof of completion to the school administration.

In summarizing the policy, if you are ejected from an activity, you will not be allowed to attend any activity at CUSD #301. For example, if you are ejected from a JH softball game and your younger child has a music program at North Ward in a week, you are not allowed to attend all activities, which would mean the music program as well. If you are ejected from an activity, you will be notified verbally that you are not allowed to attend any activity at CUSD #301.

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*Gary Alexander
Superintendent of Schools*

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Within ten days, you will receive a written notice explaining your right to a hearing before the school board. Until that hearing is held, you will not be allowed to attend any school activity. The School Board will then decide whether you will continue to be denied entrance into activities.

Tuscola CUSD #301 encourages you to cheer for our student-athletes and not against the opposing team or the officials. If an official makes a controversial call, our coaches will respectfully address the official and advocate for our student-athletes. This is part of their job as a coach. Your job as a spectator is to cheer on those students who wear Tuscola across their chests. Tuscola CUSD # 301 treats athletics as part of the educational experience, and the benefits of involvement go far beyond the game's final score. We ask that you respect the officials and our opponents as students. If you struggle with yelling at officials, become part of the solution and become a sports official. Both the IHSA and IESA are always looking for officials.

Please know that our teachers, administrators, and staff are here to support you and your child. Please reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns at the start of the school year. This way, we can intervene early and ensure your child has a great school year.

I wish your family a happy and successful school year!

Sincerely,

Gary M. Alexander, Superintendent
Tuscola CUSD #301