

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

For Grades 3 – 8

The board believes that the educational goals and objectives of the district are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular classroom program.

The purpose of extracurricular activities shall be:

- A. to develop useful new capabilities in pupils that can lead to extension of career opportunities
- B. to develop pupil initiative and provide for the exercise of responsibility
- C. to develop leadership capabilities and good organizational skills
- D. to aid pupils in the social skills
- E. to enable pupils to explore a wider range of individual interests than might be available in the regular program

For purposes of this policy, "extracurricular activities" shall be activities, which are sponsored or approved by the board. Athletic/co-curricular activities include, but are not limited to interscholastic and intramural sports, student council, yearbook, eighth grade officers, clubs and dramatic or musical presentations.

Equal access to school facilities shall be granted to all activities that meet this definition.

The Chief School Administrator shall oversee an extracurricular program, which shall:

- A. assess the needs and interests of the pupils of this district
- B. ensure the provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff
- C. guard against the exploitation of pupils
- D. provide for a variety of experiences and a diversity of organizational models
- E. provide for the continuing evaluation of the extracurricular program and staff;
- F. ensure that all extracurricular activities are open to all eligible pupils

The guidance goal for each pupil shall be a balanced program of appropriate academic studies and activities to be determined by the school, the parents/guardians and the pupil. Guidance is necessary to encourage nonparticipants, and to prevent the overly enthusiastic from emphasizing activities at the cost of their academic performance.

Only persons employed by the board of education shall be permitted to organize district pupils during school time or during any recess in the school day for purposes of instruction or coaching or for conducting games, events, or contests in physical education or athletics.

No activity shall be considered to be under the sponsorship of this board unless the board on recommendation of the Chief School Administrator has approved it. The board must approve fund-raising activities of extracurricular groups.

All pupils in good disciplinary and academic standing shall have equal access to all extracurricular activities regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, social or economic status, sexual preference, or nonapplicable handicap.

Good Disciplinary Standing

Pupils who serve any kind of suspension may be found not eligible to participate for the remainder of the program's season, for an additional marking period, and/or for the remainder of the school year.

When a pupil already participating in an extracurricular activity is reported for repeated infractions of the rules for pupil conduct, the principal shall consult with the guidance counselor and faculty to consider whether the pupil shall be removed from any or all extra-curricular activities.

Good Academic Standing

All students will be eligible the first marking period. For the second through fourth marking periods, all students are eligible who successfully pass all of the six (6) major subject areas (Language Arts, and/or English, Science, Social Studies, Math, Reading, and Foreign Language) for the previous marking period.

If a student is determined to be ineligible based upon the above standards:

- He/she shall be placed on probation until the next Progress Report is issued.
- If he/she achieves a passing grade in all subjects, the probationary status will continue with on going monitoring the entire marking period. Participation will be permitted as long as the student maintains passing level achievement.
- If he/she does not achieve a passing grade in all six subjects, he/she shall be excluded from athletic/co-curricular activities for the remainder of the marking period.
- If he/she fails for a second time in a single subject, the exclusion(s) will continue and the Guidance Counselor will oversee the student's educational program.
- If he/she fails for a second time in multiple subjects, a Child Study Team referral will be considered.

Parents/guardians will receive prior notification of potential failures and possible consequences. The principal retains discretionary authority in such exclusions with respect to patterns of academic failure, pupil misbehaviors and excessive absences/latenesses.

Attendance

The district's attendance policy shall also apply.

Implementation

The Chief School Administrator shall ensure the equitable implementation of this policy. Particular care shall be taken to monitor that all extra-curricular programs and their operation comply with district affirmative action requirements.

Date: February 11, 1985
 Revised: December 18, 1989
 Revised: February 25, 2002
 Revised: June 29, 2009

Legal References:

N.J.S.A. 10:5	Law Against Discrimination
N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3	Voluntary associations regulating conduct of student activities; membership; rules and regulations; appeals
N.J.S.A. 18A:19-14	Funds derived from pupil activities
N.J.S.A. 18A:36-20	Participation in courses in which verbalization is unessential to understanding of subject matter; location of and children in bilingual programs
N.J.S.A. 18A:42-5, -6	Certain student organizations declared harmful ...
N.J.S.A. 34:13A-1 et seq.	New Jersey Public Employer-Employee Relations Act
N.J.A.C. 6:4-1.1 et seq.	Equality in educational programs
N.J.A.C. 6:8-4.10	State and Federally mandated programs and services
N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.3(b)8ii	Budget and cost distribution; Records

Legal References *(continued)*:

N.J.A.C. 6:29-3.1 et seq. Physical education and athletics personnel/procedures

See particularly:

N.J.A.C. 6:29-3.2(b), -3.3(b), (c), -3.4

20 U.S.C.A. 4071 - Equal Access Act

20 U.S.C.A. 1681 - Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

New Jersey State Board of Education Resolution, May 2, 1984, requires local boards to adopt policy on academic eligibility for extracurricular activities. Must address grade point average, attendance requirements and course failure rate.

NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts (June 1993)

Cross References:

1210	Community organizations
1320	Participation in out-of-school community activities
1322	Contests for pupils
2224	Nondiscrimination/affirmative action
3453	School activity funds
4143	Extra pay for extra work
5113	Absences and excuses
5126	Awards for achievement
5131	Conduct/discipline
5136	Fund-raising activities
5143	Insurance
5145.4	Equal educational opportunity
6010	Goals and objectives
6142	Subject fields
6145.1/6145.2	Intramural competition; interscholastic competition
6145.4A.A.1	Public performances and exhibitions
6145.5	Student organizations
6145.7	Social events/meetings
6146	Graduation requirements
6153	Field trips