

### 2430 CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education believes that the goals and objectives of this district are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular instructional program of the school. The purpose of such co-curricular activities shall be to develop leadership capacities and good organizational skills, to aid in the socialization of pupils, and to enable pupils to explore a wider range of individual interests than might be available in the regular curricular program.

The Board shall make school facilities, supplies, and equipment available and assign staff members for the support of a program of co-curricular activities for pupils in grades Kindergarten through eighth. A participation fee will be established by the Board of Education at the start of the school year or prior to the activity. In addition, participating pupils will be required to assume all or part of the cost of travel, as well as teacher attendance at co-curricular events. Pupils participating in service-oriented activities, such as Student Council and yearbook, and those who indicate financial hardship, will not be subject to activities fees.

For purposes of this policy, co-curricular activities are those activities conducted on or off school premises by clubs, associations, and organizations of pupils sponsored by the Board and do not include athletic competitions and practices. Co-curricular activities must be related to the curriculum but are not offered for credit toward promotion or graduation and are ordinarily conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day.

No co-curricular activity shall be considered to be under the sponsorship of this Board unless it has been approved by the Board on recommendation of the Superintendent.

Pupils shall be fully informed of the co-curricular activities available to them and of the eligibility standards established for participation in co-curricular activities. Co-curricular activities shall be available to all pupils who voluntarily elect to participate

#### **Standards of Eligibility**

There are three standards of eligibility for all school events: academic eligibility, behavioral eligibility and attendance. The Superintendent may modify or alter as needed for unusual circumstances.



A. Academic Eligibility

1. Pupils who maintain a C or seventy percent average or above in all of their classes each marking period are considered to be in good academic standing and eligible to participate in co-curricular activities.
2. Pupils who are on academic probation are eligible to participate in co-curricular activities from the time the report card is issued to the issuance of the report card in the following marking period.
  - a. Academic probation applies to pupils who:
    - (1) Have received one or more grades of D or below seventy percent and who in the past have always proved to be a pupil in good academic standing; and
    - (2) Have had extenuating circumstances in their lives, i.e., death in the family, crisis in home or school life, learning difficulties that have contributed to grades of D or below.
  - b. For pupils on academic probation:
    - (1) A letter will be sent by the Principal to inform the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of their pupil's academic status; and
    - (2) A monitoring program to ensure academic improvement will include one or more of the following.
      - (a) Parent(s) or legal guardian(s)/teacher-administration conference;
      - (b) Parent(s) or legal guardian(s)/teacher written or verbal contacts;
      - (c) Meeting with the school counselor;
      - (d) Attending extra-help sessions;
      - (d) A bi-weekly status up-date by all teachers;



- (e) Mid-marking progress reports; and
    - (f) Pupil contract.
  - (3) If a pupil receives all grades of C or better the next marking period, that pupil is now returned to good academic standing and can again participate in co-curricular activities.
  - (4) If the pupil again receives any grade of D or lower during the next marking period, he/she is placed on academic suspension. Grades from the fourth quarter of the previous academic school year will affect eligibility status for the first quarter of the new school year.
- 3. Pupils who are on academic suspension are not eligible to participate in or join any co-curricular activities until the pupil receives all grades of C or better for a two week period. If a pupil's grades drops below a C, at any point in time, they will be place back on academic suspension until the end of the marking period.
  - a. Academic suspension applies to pupils who continue to receive one or more grades of D or below seventy percent and have been on academic probation for more than one marking period.
  - b. Placement is not to be held on any sports, club, or activity for any pupils who are on academic suspension.
  - c. Pupils on academic suspension may not attend any practice or activity or be in the school building for a reason other than receiving additional academic assistance.
  - d. Pupils on academic suspension:
    - (1) Participate in a monitoring program similar to that above for pupils on academic probation;
  - e. Pupils on academic suspension may be referred to the Intervention and Resource Committee.



### B. Behavioral Eligibility

1. Pupils are eligible to participate in co-curricular activities if they hold fifteen or less points on the school's discipline system.
2. Pupils are not eligible to participate as stated if they accrue points as follows:
  - a. If student's current status is over 15 Points – Students will lose the following privileges:
    - (1) Participation in all extracurricular activities (sports teams, chorus, band, Student Council, DI, etc.)
    - (2) Graduation
    - (3) 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance
    - (4) 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington, D.C. trip
    - (5) 7<sup>th</sup> grade Fairview Lakes trip
    - (6) Field trips with alternate program put in place at school
  - b. A student is subject to a discipline committee review to determine eligibility for future school events, if the student accumulates 20 or more points during the course of the year. The points are calculated by the total number of points a child receives throughout the course of a single academic year, regardless of any point reductions.
3. Students may initiate point-reduction plans through school community service provided said plans are worked out in advance and approved by school administration. An hour of volunteer community service will equal three (3) points. Sample services may include but are not limited to assisting a teacher before or after school with an activity or volunteering time at a school function.

### C. Attendance

1. A pupil in grades Kindergarten through eighth may be ineligible for participating if he/she has demonstrated unusual attendance by missing ten (10) or more days of school.



2. No pupil who has been absent for a school day may participate in an activity, event, trip, or performance scheduled for the afternoon or evening of that school day.
3. A pupil who has been suspended from participation in co-curricular activities for reason of poor attendance will be offered an opportunity to work out a plan for improved attendance with the Principal. If the pupil adheres to the plan and demonstrates his/her improved attendance within a period of not less than two weeks, the pupil may be reinstated to participation in co-curricular activities.

The Board will not permit pupils who reside in this district and who are not enrolled in the public school to participate in noncompetitive co-curricular activities on a space-available basis. Participants will be permitted only on written application and the applicant's assurances that the pupil agrees to be bound by the policies, rules, and regulations of this district.

The Superintendent shall prepare procedures to implement a co-curricular program and shall assess the needs and interests of the pupils of this district and provide for the continuing evaluation of the co-curricular program.

39 U.S.C.A. 1701 et seq.  
N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3; 18A:42-2; 18A:42-5  
N.J.A.C. 6A:19-6.10 [**vocational districts**]

Cross reference: Policy Guide No. 5842

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