

2430 CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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 appropriately conducted outside the regular classroom program.

The purposes of extracurricular activities shall be:

1. To develop useful new capabilities in pupils that can lead to career opportunities;
2. To develop pupil initiative and provide for the exercise of responsibility;
3. To develop leadership capabilities and good organizational skills;
4. To aid pupils in the development of social skills; and
5. 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 those activities which are sponsored or approved by the Board but are not offered for credit. Such activities shall generally be conducted outside the regular school day, available to pupils who voluntarily elect to participate, marked by pupil participation in the processes of initiation, planning, organizing and execution and shall ordinarily include band, clubs, dramatic or musical presentations, and intramural and interscholastic sports.

The Superintendent shall prepare procedures to implement an extracurricular program which shall:

1. Assess the needs and interests of the pupils of this district;
2. Ensure the provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff;
3. Guard against the exploitation of pupils;
4. Provide for a variety of experiences;

5. Provide for the continuing evaluation of the extracurricular program and staff; and
6. Ensure that all extracurricular activities are open to all eligible pupils and that all pupils are fully informed of the opportunities open to them.

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

Only persons in the employ of 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 it has been approved by the Board on recommendation of the Superintendent. Fund-raising activities of extracurricular groups must be approved by the Board.

All pupils shall have equal access to all extracurricular activities regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, social or economic status, or nonapplicable handicap.

Eligibility Requirements

Any pupil who receives a warning notice of impending failure, or receives a failing grade in any subject on his/her report card will be declared ineligible to participate in the extracurricular program, except for intramural sports, which are to be considered an extension of the physical education program.

Any such pupil declared ineligible will remain ineligible until the immediate, succeeding warning notice or report card issuance date. At that time, the pupil's grades will be reviewed to determine whether or not he/she meets the eligibility requirements for the ensuing period.

Pupils who fail a course at the end of June will be ineligible to participate in early fall extracurricular activities unless they take the failed course over during summer school and pass it.

In cases where a pupil's parents request a waiver of these eligibility requirements, in writing, such a request will be honored for a period not to exceed four weeks, not more than once in a school year.

The Principal's office will maintain an up-to-date list of ineligible pupils. Teachers of extracurricular programs are responsible for verifying the eligibility of participating pupils.

The Superintendent shall direct development of regulations to ensure equitable implementation of this policy. Particular care shall be taken to ensure that all extracurricular programs and their operation comply with district affirmative action requirements.

39 U.S.C.A. 1701 et seq.
N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3; 18A:42-2; 18A:42-5