

2430 CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (M)

M

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:

1. To develop useful capabilities in pupils that can lead to extension of 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 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 that are sponsored or approved by the Board but are not offered for credit toward graduation. 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.

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

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 and a diversity of organizational models;



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 guidance goal for each pupil shall be a balanced program of appropriate academic studies and activities to be determined by the school, the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), and the pupil. Guidance is necessary to encourage nonparticipants, and to prevent the overenthusiastic from emphasizing activities at the cost to their academic performance.

Only persons in the employ of a Board of Education shall be permitted to organize district pupils during school time 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 Superintendent, has approved it. The Principal or his/her designee must approve fund raising activities for 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, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, marital status, place of residence within the district, social or economic status, or non-applicable disability.

Only sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students from our three sending districts (Runnemede, Bellmawr, and Gloucester Township) are permitted to participate, with parental permission, in our summer and fall music programs. No elementary or middleschool students are permitted to participate in any co-curricular activities, with the exception of summer and fall music programs and upon the invitation or request of the music program advisors/teachers. (See Regulation 2430, item D.)

Good Academic Standing

Good academic standing at the beginning of the school year for all grades, nine through twelve, means successful completion of the previous year's requirements. The previous year's requirements are:

1. First semester freshman are automatically eligible in their first year of high school.



POLICY

2. For grade ten, completion in grade nine of a least ~~27.5~~ 30 credits.
3. For grade eleven, completion in grade ten of the same requirements as in 2. above;
4. For grade twelve, completion in grade eleven of the same requirements as in 2. above;

Attendance

The district's attendance policy shall also apply.

Implementation

The Superintendent shall direct development of detailed 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 equity requirements. Participation in academically related coaching or tutoring groups may be exempt from the eligibility requirement at the Superintendent's discretion.

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

Adopted: 9 April 2009
Revised: 8 March 2012
First Reading: 2 January 2015

