

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 six through twelve. The Board shall maintain the program of co-curricular activities, and pupils who wish to participate shall pay an activity fee which shall be determined annually by the Board at its Reorganization Meeting. Pupils eligible for free or reduced price lunches are exempt from the activity fee. Families experiencing financial hardship should request consideration by informing the coach, the advisor, or the Building Principal. Pupils may be required to provide supplies in accordance with Board Policy No. 2520 on instructional supplies and pupils may be required to assume all or part of the costs of travel and attendance at co-curricular events and trips.

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.

The Board will permit the use of school facilities by organizations of pupils during pupil activity periods. No group of pupils, regardless of the size of the group, will be denied an opportunity to meet on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at their meeting.

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.

All pupils in good disciplinary and academic standing, and who have paid the correct annual activity fee (except those pupils who are exempt), shall have equal access to all co-curricular activities.



A pupil who is suspended from school is not permitted to participate in any co-curricular activity during the term of suspension. The Principal, grade administrator, unit administrator, or activity supervisor may suspend a pupil from participation in a co-curricular activity as a consequence of unacceptable behavior or recurring disciplinary problems including violation of the substance abuse policy.

Policy 2431 specifies that eligibility for participation in interscholastic athletics shall conform to the academic standing requirements of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association. Because of the diversity in the nature, intensity of pupil involvement, and time demands of non-athletic activities, however, it is not possible to establish uniform academic requirements. Further, the Board is aware that participation in activities often serves as an incentive and motivator for at-risk pupils. It is the intent of the Board that each case involving a pupil who is failing one or more courses or whose academic work has slipped, be considered individually. A school administrator and the guidance counselor, after consultation with the pupil and parent(s) or legal guardian(s), shall decide whether or not it is in the pupil's best interest to curtail co-curricular participation. Where allowable and appropriate, the district will afford flexibility in the standards for participation in co-curricular activities.

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

Adopted: 7 December 2009

