

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Bordentown Regional Board of Education 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 students that can lead to extension of career opportunities;
- B. To develop student initiative and provide for the exercise of responsibility;
- C. To develop leadership capabilities and good organizational skills;
- D. To aid students in the social skills;
- E. To enable students 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 students who voluntarily elect to participate, marked by student 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:

- A. Assess the needs and interests of the students of this district;
- B. Ensure the provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff;
- C. Guard against the exploitation of students;
- 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 students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities open to them.

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

Only persons in the employ of a board of education shall be permitted to organize district students 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.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (continued)

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 students in good disciplinary and academic standing shall have equal access to all extracurricular activities regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status.

Good Disciplinary Standing

Good disciplinary standing shall mean that a student is not eligible to participate if the following disciplinary actions were taken against him/her during the academic school year:

- A. Any single out-of-school suspension that totals more than 5 days;
- B. Two out-of-school suspensions;
- C. Out-of-school suspensions and in-school suspensions that amount to four incidences;
- D. Two trancies, as defined by the attendance policy in the student handbook.

Good Academic Standing

Good academic standing at the beginning of the school year for all grades, six through 12, means successful completion of the previous year's requirements, with no failures. The following rules will apply with regard to academic standards for eligibility to participate in interscholastic sports and extracurricular activities:

A. High School Academic Eligibility Requirements

- 1. All incoming freshmen are eligible automatically for the first marking period.
- 2. To be eligible for athletic competition during the first semester (September 1 to January 31) of the 10th grade or higher, or the second year of attendance in the secondary school or beyond, a pupil must have passed 25% of the credits (30 credits) required by the State of New Jersey for graduation (120 total credits for graduation), during the immediately preceding academic year.
- 3. To be eligible for athletic competition during the second semester (Feb. 1 to June 30) of the 9th grade or higher, a pupil must have passed the equivalent of 12 ½% of the credits (15 credits) required by New Jersey for graduation at the close of the preceding semester (Jan. 31).
- 4. Full-year courses shall be equated as one-half of the total credits to be gained for the full year to determine credits passed during the immediately preceding semester.
- 5. A student may correct academic failures by earning a passing grade at an accredited summer school.

B. Grades 6 through 12 Academic Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility will be based upon grade averages at the end of the first marking period, from 1st semester grades, third marking period, and final grades. A student can become eligible or ineligible at any time except when participating in interscholastic sports during which the student must meet both the local and state requirements:

- 1. A student with two (2) or more failures automatically becomes ineligible for participation. Participation ends five (5) school days after the completion of the marking period.
- 2. If a student has one (1) failure, he/she shall be placed on academic probation.

C. Academic Probation

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (continued)

A student placed on academic probation must meet the following criteria to be reinstated:

1. The coach or activity advisor, parent, student and counselor must agree and execute a contract, which attests to the support and commitment of all parties to bring up the grades. All parties have the responsibility to monitor progress and provide adequate time for school work completion.
2. The coach/advisor or delegated coach/study hall supervisor must provide a supervised study time for homework completion.
3. The student on academic probation will remain eligible as long as neither the next progress report, nor the next report card, reflects two (2) or more failures. If two or more failures are present, participation ends with issuance of the report.
4. A high school student may become ineligible if he/she enters a "no credit" status. The student may remain eligible until all appeals have been exhausted.

Attendance

The district policy 5113 Attendance, Absences and Excuses 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 extra-curricular 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.

Adopted: October 7, 2009

NJSBA Review/Update: June 2014

Readopted:

Key Words

Extracurricular Activities, Cocurricular Activities, Student Activities, Student Activities

<u>Legal References:</u> <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 10:5-1 et seq.	Law Against Discrimination
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:11-3	Voluntary associations regulating conduct of student activities; membership; rules and regulations; appeals
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:19-14	Funds derived from student activities
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-20	Participation in courses in which verbalization unessential to understanding of subject matter; location of and children in bilingual programs
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:42-5, -6	Certain student organizations declared harmful ...
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 34:13A-1 et seq.	<u>New Jersey Employer-Employee Relations Act</u>
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:7-1.1 et seq.	Managing for Equality and Equity in Education
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-3.2	Career education and counseling
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:9-5.19	Athletics personnel
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-2.2	Required health services
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:30-1.1 et seq.	Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-9.1 et seq.	Athletics Procedures
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-14.1	Review of mandated programs and services

20 U.S.C.A. 4071-4074 - Equal Access Act

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

Krupp v. Bd. of Ed. of Union County Reg. H.S. Dist. #1, 278 N.J. Super. 31 (App. Div. 1994) cert. den. 140 N.J. 277 (1994)

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (continued)Good News Club v. Milford Central School, 121 U.S. 2093 (2001)

NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

Possible

<u>Cross References:</u>	1210	Community organizations
	1320	Participation in out of school community activities
	*1322	Contests for students
	*2224	Nondiscrimination/affirmative action
	*3453	School activity funds
	4143/4243	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
	6142.5	Travel and exchange programs
	*6142.12	Career and technical education
	*6145.1/6145.2	Intramural competition; interscholastic competition
6145.4		Public performances and exhibitions
6145.5		Student organizations
6145.7		Social events/meetings
*6146		Graduation requirements
*6153		Field trips

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.