

POLICY

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SUBJECT: EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education considers extracurricular student activities to be a valuable part of the program of the school and shall support these activities within the financial means of the District. The Board is committed to the assignment of staff for the formation of student groups for such purposes as developing interests in an academic area, building social relationships, and gaining an understanding of the responsibilities of good citizenship.

Student activities are those school activities that are voluntarily engaged in by students, have the approval of the school administration, and do not carry credit toward promotion or graduation.

The Board has established the following criteria, which all student activity programs must meet:

1. student activities must have educational value for students;
2. student activities must be in balance with other curricular offerings in the schools, and should be designed to stimulate student growth and development and contribute directly to the educational, civic, social and ethical development of students involved;
3. student activities should be open to all students;
4. student activities must not place undue burdens upon students, teachers or schools;
5. student activities should be held before or after school hours;
6. student activities at any level should be unique, not duplications or other activities already in place;
7. student activities must be managed in a professional manner and will be chaperoned by district staff and authorized parent volunteers. Chaperones will take appropriate action to inhibit students from violating district rules and regulations.

Limited Open Forum

The Board of Education maintains a limited open forum where secondary students may meet for voluntary student-initiated activities unrelated directly to the instructional program, regardless of religious, political or philosophical content.

To provide "a fair opportunity" to students who wish to conduct a meeting, the Board of Education, in accordance with the provisions of the Equal Access Act, shall ensure that:

- a) The meeting is voluntary and student-initiated,
- b) There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school, the government, or its agent or employees;

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- c) Employees or agents of the school or government are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
- d) The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
- e) Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups (20 U.S.C. Section 4071[c]).

The Board prohibits student organizations whose activities may be unlawful or may cause disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of the educational process.

Administration is responsible for establishing regulations governing the use of school facilities by student organizations.

Eligibility for Attendance

- a) Students who are suspended from school on a day of an athletic game or practice, session, party, school dance, or other school affair scheduled after regular school hours are not eligible for participation or attendance at such events.
- b) In order for students to participate in a school-sponsored function, it is necessary that students attend classes for at least half of the school day on the day of the activity. Exceptions may be granted by the building principal based on extenuating circumstances.

8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations
(NYCCR) Sections 172.1 and 172.2
Education Law Sections 1709, 1709-a,
2503-a, and 2554-a
Equal Access Act, 20 United States
Code (U.S.C.)
Sections 4071-4074

Adopted: 04-12-17