

### **EXTRACURRICULAR 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 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, shall be related to the District's curricula, and shall ordinarily include, but not be limited to: 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 District's affirmative action resolution and plan for equity in school and classroom practices shall apply. No group of students, 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.

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.

**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (continued)**

Guidance is necessary to encourage non-participants, 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.

A student-initiated group granted permission to meet on school premises shall be subject to the same rules and regulations that govern the meetings of student organizations sponsored by this Board, except as provided by this policy. Participation in a student-initiated meeting must be available to all students who wish to attend and cannot be denied on the basis of a student's race, color, creed, religion, gender, gender identity, national origin, disability, or social or economic status. The Board will not permit the organization of a fraternity, sorority, or secret society. A student-initiated meeting may be attended by no more than three outside resource person(s).

A teaching staff member shall be assigned to attend a student-initiated meeting in a custodial capacity and shall not participate in the activity. No teaching staff member shall be compelled to attend a student-initiated meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to his or her beliefs.

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.

The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board extra-curricular student activity programs that shall be designed to promote social and cultural activities for the greatest number of students and to help develop skills in democratic management of these activities.

All students must be in good academic and disciplinary standing in accordance with the regulations of this policy to participate. All students in good disciplinary and academic standing shall have equal access to all extracurricular activities regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, gender identity and expression, affectional or sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, familial status, nationality, marital status, place of residence within the District, social or economic status, or non-applicable disability.

**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 and to define good academic and disciplinary standing. Particular care shall be taken to ensure that all extra-curricular programs and their operation comply with District equity requirements.

**Legal References:** N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et seq.  
N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3

N.J.S.A. 18A:19-14

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-20

Law Against Discrimination

Voluntary associations regulating conduct of student activities; membership; rules and regulations; appeals  
Funds derived from student activities  
in bilingual programs

Participation in courses in which verbalization unessential to understanding of subject matter; location of and children

**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (continued)****Legal References: (continued)**

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:42-5, -6	Certain student organizations declared harmful ...
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 34:13A-1 <u>et seq.</u>	New Jersey Employer-Employee Relations Act
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:7-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	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 <u>et seq.</u>	Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-9.1 <u>et seq.</u>	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)

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

NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

<b><u>Cross References:</u></b>	1210	Community organizations
	1320	Participation in out of school community activities
	*1322	Contests for students
	*2224	Nondiscrimination/affirmative action
	*3453	School activity funds
	4143	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 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.

**Key Words**

Extracurricular Activities, Co-curricular Activities, Student Activities, Student Activities

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