

Policy

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 pupils that can lead to extension of career opportunities;
- B. To develop pupil initiative and provide for the exercise of responsibility;
- C. To develop leadership capabilities and good organizational skills;
- D. To aid pupils in the social skills;
- E. 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 chief school administrator shall prepare procedures to implement an extracurricular program which shall:

- A. Assess the needs and interests of the pupils of this district;
- B. Ensure the provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff;
- C. Guard against the exploitation of pupils;
- 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 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 parents/guardians and the pupil. 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 pupils 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 chief school administrator. Fund-raising activities of extracurricular groups must be approved by the board.

All pupils 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, gender identity and expression, religion, disability, immigration status, English proficiency, housing status or socioeconomic status. The district shall ensure equity in educational programs including extracurricular activities and provide opportunities for students to interact positively with others on a nondiscriminatory basis.

The Ventnor City Board of Education recognizes the importance of athletic and co-curricular activities. The board is cognizant, too that these activities cannot pre-empt the academic preparedness of its students. Therefore, all students in the Ventnor City Public School who attend grades five (5) through eight (8) who participate in athletic and/or extracurricular activities are bound by the following criteria of eligibility if they desire to participate in these activities:

Academic and Behavior Participation Criteria

- A. All students who participate in any athletic and/or extra-curricular activities and their parent/guardian will be required to review and sign a contract agreeing to rules and regulations for participation set forth by the board of education.
- B. A grade point average of 2.0 (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) in all subject areas in which a letter grade is given must be maintained.
- C. A student who receives more than one (1) "F" on the report card for the previous term will not be eligible to participate or will be removed from the activities if the marking period ends during the term of the activity.
- D. A student who receives one (1) "F" on the report card for the previous term or receives one "F" at the end of the marking period that occurs during the term of the activity will be placed on probation until interim progress reports are distributed. The student can participate in the activity during this probationary period. A letter will be sent to the parent/guardian to inform him/her of this probationary period and encourage student responsibility and parent participation in monitoring and developing intervention activities. The student who improves his/her grade to a passing grade and acquires a grade point average of 2.0 or above by the interim progress report will be removed from the probation and become a regular member of the activity. A student who does not improve and receive a passing grade at interim progress report will be removed from the activity.
- E. A student's average attendance record at the end of each grading period must indicate a 90% or higher attendance rate at the time of the onset of the sport/activity in which he/she will participate. This rate must be retained throughout the sport/activity duration. Administrative review of individual cases may occur if the attendance percentage falls below 90%. Only a lengthy illness or serious injury that keeps a student out of school will be accepted as reasons for review.
- F. A student must exhibit appropriate self-discipline. The school principal will review each proposed participant's discipline record report for the school year in which the activity will take place and approve said participation. Suspension from school will require a second review of the student's disciplinary record by the school principal, who will decide if the student's behavior requires suspension or dismissal from the athletic or extra-curricular activity.
- G. Appeal of the principal's decision will follow the due process procedure

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (continued)Attendance

The district's attendance policy shall also apply.

Implementation

The chief school administrator 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 chief school administrator's discretion.

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Second Reading/Adoption: May 16, 2017

Key Words

Extracurricular Activities, Cocurricular Activities, Student Activities, Pupil 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 pupil 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:9B-5.16	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

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)

The Comprehensive Equity Plan, New Jersey Department of Education

NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

<u>Cross References:</u> *1322	Contests for pupils
*2224	Nondiscrimination/affirmative action
*3453	School activity funds
*5113	Absences and excuses

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (continued)

*5126	Awards for achievement
*5131	Conduct/discipline
*5136	Fund-raising activities
*5145.4	Equal educational opportunity
*6010	Goals and objectives
*6142	Subject fields
*6142.12	Career and technical education
*6145.1/6145.2	Intramural competition; interscholastic competition
*6146	Graduation requirements
*6153	Field trips

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