

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education has the authority to establish reasonable standards as prerequisites for eligibility for cocurricular and extracurricular activities. These standards apply to entry qualifications as well as to continued participation in such activities. Advisors/Coaches must disseminate a copy of the expected standards of conduct to all students and parents at the start of each school year, and participating students should be individually informed of the application and scope of such standards.

Eligibility requirements should include academic standards, behavioral standards, and training standards. These standards should be applied equally to all student participants. All student participants, including athletes, should be informed that they have the obligation to act in a responsible manner because of the leadership roles they play in the school environment.

Advisors/coaches must specify minimum school attendance requirements, and the minimum grade point average (GPA) they expect student participants to maintain. All such standards must be reasonable. The relationship between a student's GPA and his/her eligibility must be clearly explained to all student participants.

Behavioral standards must include a ban on consumption/use of alcoholic beverages, drugs and/or tobacco products. These standards also extend to student conduct off school grounds, including student attendance at parties off school grounds where alcohol and/or illegal drugs are present.

"Training rules" are generally accepted as a condition of participation in student athletics, and may include attendance at practices, individual training programs, etc.

Although suspension from participation in an extracurricular activity does not require a full hearing pursuant to Section 3214 of the Education Law, a student must be given the opportunity to appear informally before the disciplinarian and/or disciplinary committee, and present his/her side of the story as part of a general discussion of the conduct under review.

Ref: Education Law §§1709(3); 2801
Bush v. Dassel-Cokato Board of Ed., 745 F.Supp. 562 (D. Minn. 1990)
Mazzotte v. Moriah Central School Board, N.Y. Supreme Court (Special Term 1984)
Matter of O'Conner v. Bd. of Ed., 65 Misc.2d 40, 316 NY2d 799 (1970)
Matter of Wilson, 28 EDR 254 (1988)
Matter of Keily, 24 EDR 138 (1984)
Matter of Miller, 23 EDR 23 (1983)
Matter of Moore, 22 EDR 180 (1982)
Matter of Clark, 21 EDR 542 (1982)
Matter of Vetter, 20 EDR 547 (1981)

ADOPTED: 12/13/93

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES REGULATION

It is the desire of the Board of Education to place scholastic achievement above extracurricular activities. However, the Board fully recognizes the value of extracurricular activities toward providing each student with a well-rounded secondary education. To assist in obtaining this objective, eligibility rules regarding scholarship and attendance have been adopted by the Board.

Eligibility will be based on a student's performance in all academic subjects. Any student with two or more class averages below 65 on an ongoing basis will be placed on a two week probation. At the conclusion of the two weeks, if the student's grades have not improved, the student will be unable to participate in or attend extracurricular activities of the school. These events will cover, but not necessarily be limited to, the following areas.

1. class activities (class trips, etc.);
2. cheerleading;
3. student council;
4. majorettes;
5. color guard;
6. yearbook;
7. fund raisers;
8. drama and other clubs; and
9. all other school sponsored extracurricular events.

To determine eligibility, classroom teachers will furnish the high school principal with a list of all students failing their course on Monday morning at two week intervals. Ineligible students may be reinstated upon presentation of written notification of meeting acceptable academic standards at the end of the next two week interval to the coach or advisor. In cases where students are involved in special programs, the decision of meeting acceptable academic standards will be determined by the high school principal.

Student-Athletes

The criteria for eligibility established under this section will remain in force unless a student athlete can demonstrate that there are extenuating circumstances to his/her not meeting these requirements. Such information will be reduced to writing and submitted to the building principal. If the principal feels there is merit to an athlete's case, he/she will consult with the Superintendent of Schools. At this point, a waiver under this section will be granted only if both the principal and superintendent feel there is merit to the athlete's request.

Faithful practice and self-discipline are required to do anything well. A fine athlete will possess these qualities and strive to live up to the ideals associated with outstanding sportsmanship.

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES EXHIBIT

Eligibility Requirements for Student Participants in Extra-Curricular Activities

From: _____
Activity Advisor/Coach

Activity

To: Parent/Guardian of a student participating in an extra-curricular activity/athletics program

District students who participate in extra-curricular activities are expected to conform to standards which meet or exceed the requirements of the general district code of conduct. The following guidelines must be read and signed by all student participants and their parent/guardian, and returned to the activity advisor/coach named above:

I. Academic Standards

In order to remain eligible for participation in the above-named activity, district students must maintain a ____ % grade point average (GPA). If the student's GPA drops below this percentile, he/she will be placed upon probation for two weeks; during this time, the student's GPA must improve to the acceptable level, or he/she will not be allowed to participate in the activity for the remainder of the season/school year (whichever is appropriate). Any student with two (2) or more class averages below 65, on an ongoing basis, will be unable to participate in or attend extracurricular activities of the school.

II. Behavior Standards/Code of Conduct

1. The student agrees to abide by the district-wide Student Code of Conduct, and understands that a violation of the code may result in suspension from the above-named activity in addition to any penalty given by the district.
2. The student agrees to refrain from the use, possession or sale of alcohol, drugs and/or tobacco products, on or off campus, during the time that he/she participates in the above-named activity.
3. The student agrees to abide by any further conditions imposed by the activity advisor/coach during the time that he/she participates in the above-named activity.

III. Participation/Training Standards

Certain activities require a minimum level of participation/training, as established by the activity advisor/coach. The student agrees to the conditions outlined below or on a separate sheet, and realizes that failure to maintain this minimum level of participation may result in suspension from the activity:

Minimum required attendance at meetings/practices _____
Other requirements(see attached sheet):

I have read and agree to abide by the standards outlined above:

Student

Student's Parent/Guardian

Date

Date