

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,

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events, or contests in physical education or athletics.

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, nationality, ancestry, age, marital status, familial status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status.

Good Disciplinary Standing

- A. When a pupil already participating in an extracurricular activity is reported for an infraction of the rules for pupil conduct, the Principal shall appoint a staff committee to consider whether the pupil shall be removed from any or all extracurricular activities.
- B. If a pupil was in bad disciplinary standing the previous term, the Principal shall refer the matter to a staff committee to determine whether the pupil shall be permitted to participate during the current term.

Good Academic Standing

Good academic standing at the beginning of the school year for all grades, seven through 12, means successful completion of the previous year's requirements, with no failures. In addition, the previous year's requirements are:

- A. For grade 10, completion in grade nine of at least 1/4 of the credits required to receive a Plainfield School District state-endorsed high school diploma, with a minimum grade point average of 2.0;
- B. For grade 11, completion in grade 10 of the same requirements as in step "A" above;
- C. For grade 12, completion in grade 11 of the same requirements as in step "A" above.

Continuing good academic standing requires maintenance of passing grades in all subjects during the current year, and in grade 12 taking enough course credits to complete the high school graduation requirement by the end of the academic year.

A pupil who begins the year not in good academic standing, who maintains a passing grade in every subject may request consideration to participate in extracurricular activities at the beginning of the second semester.

Attendance

The district's attendance policy shall also apply.

Non-Public School and Charter School Student Participation in Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities

The board believes that resident students attending nonpublic schools and charter schools should be offered the opportunity to participate in district sponsored extracurricular and interscholastic activities. Therefore resident students attending nonpublic school may be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities and on the district athletic teams. Resident nonpublic and charter school students shall be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities when space is available and within the constraints of the activity budget. Resident nonpublic and charter school students shall be permitted to try-out for all athletic teams, theatrical production and other competitive activities and shall be permitted to participate when the student successfully competes for and earns a spot on the team or in the activity.

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Resident nonpublic and charter school students shall be eligible to participate if the following conditions are met:

A. Notice and request to principal.

The parents/guardians of the student shall submit a written request to the principal of the school assigned to the student's place of residence to try out for an athletic team in interscholastic athletics. This request shall be submitted with proof of residency not later than 60 calendar days prior to the starting date of the activity or the first practice.

B. The student shall be a resident of Plainfield Township.

The student must reside in the school district and shall meet the residency criteria pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22 and board policy 5111 Admission. The student shall provide proof of residence which shall be kept on file at the main office. A student shall be assigned to participate at the school of record for the student's place of residence in the same manner as other students of the Plainfield School District.

C. The board shall approve the participation of the resident nonpublic or charter school student.

Consistent with Department of Education guidelines, a resident nonpublic or charter school student may participate in extracurricular activities and specifically interscholastic athletics if the local board of education, in its discretion, approves the participation of resident nonpublic or charter school student.

D. The student shall comply with the requirements of the Plainfield Board of Education

The student must comply with the same physical examination, insurance, age, academic and other requirements for participation as required of all students at the district school (board policies 6145 Extracurricular Activities, 6145.1/6145.2 Intramural and Interscholastic Competition). The resident nonpublic school student must adhere to the same standards of behavior, responsibilities and performance as other members of the team (5131 Conduct and Discipline, District Code of Student Conduct).

E. Resident nonpublic and charter school students shall meet any skill or experience eligibility requirements for participation in extracurricular activities and shall be required to compete for positions, roles, and or other screening criteria that the activity may require. Certification of skill or experience may be required.

Compliance with NJSIAA Requirements

Resident nonpublic or charter school students must meet all eligibility requirements established by the NJSIAA, including but not limited to rules relating to amateur status, age, recruitment, academic credits, semesters of eligibility and transfers. In particular, homeschooled students and will be subject to all rulings and decisions of the NJSIAA, and may appeal any adverse decision to the Commissioner of Education under N.J.A.C. 6A:3-7.1 et seq.

A. In accordance with the NJSIAA requirements for participation in interscholastic athletics, the student shall be required to demonstration of equivalent education for participation on .

The parents/guardians of the homeschooled student shall certify in writing that the student is receiving an academically equivalent education.

B. The parents/guardians of the homeschooled student shall provide certification of academic eligibility.

The parents/guardians of the homeschooled student shall provide evidence satisfactory to the principal

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that the student has met the requirements of the school's own policy for academic eligibility to participate as detailed in board policy 6145 Extracurricular Activities. The principal may require a description of the classes the student is currently taking, the daily schedule of study, and grades or measurements of progress utilized in the homeschool program.

Any student who withdraws from the public school program to enroll in a homeschool program, and who is ineligible at the time of withdrawal from the public school program due to his/her failure to meet academic, behavioral or eligibility standards, shall be ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletic competition.

Homeschooled, resident nonpublic and charter school students participants who have satisfied the requirements above shall have the rights, privileges, and responsibilities associated with all other student athletes attending NJSIAA member schools.

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.

Adopted: August 18, 2009
Amended: June 17, 2014
Amended: June 23, 2015

Key Words

Extracurricular Activities, Cocurricular Activities, Student Activities, Pupil Activities

<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.	New Jersey Employer-Employee Relations Act
<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
<u>Krupp v. Bd. of Ed. of Union County Reg. H.S. Dist. #1</u> , 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 pupils
	*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.