

# Policy Guide



Policy No. 122  
 Section PROGRAMS  
 Title EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES  
 Adopted AUGUST 21, 1989  
 Revised MAY 22, 2018;  
FEBRUARY 16, 1998

<b>POLICY NO. 122 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES</b>	
<b>Section 1</b>	<p><b><u>Purpose</u></b></p> <p>The Board recognizes the educational values inherent in student participation in extracurricular activities and supports the concept of student organizations for such purposes as building social relationships, developing interests in a specific area, and gaining an understanding of the elements and responsibilities of good citizenship.</p> <p>All learning experiences offered by the schools of this District, curricular and extracurricular, shall be planned and integrated toward the attainment of the District’s educational objectives.</p>
<b>Section 2</b>	<p><b><u>Definition</u></b></p> <p>For purposes of this policy, <b>extracurricular activities</b> shall be those programs that are sponsored or approved by the Board and are conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day and are equally available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate.</p> <p>For purposes of this policy, <b>board sponsorship</b> shall mean formal recognition of an extracurricular activity. Such recognition does not require monetary support from the District, but allows that extracurricular program to operate pursuant to the guidelines of this policy.</p>

Title 22 Sec. 12.1



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4. The Board reserves the right to limit support for any activities.

Off-Campus Activities

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would otherwise violate the Code of Student Conduct if any of the following circumstances exist:

1. The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from school or traveling to and from school-sponsored activities, whether or not via school district furnished transportation.
2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.
3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.
4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, for example, a transaction conducted outside of school pursuant to an agreement made in school, that would violate the Code of Student Conduct if conducted in school.
5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.
6. There is otherwise a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.

Pol. 218, Pol. 256

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**Section 4**

**Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative procedures to implement the extracurricular activities program. All student groups shall adhere to Board policy and administrative regulations.

At a minimum these procedures shall include:

1. Quarterly reporting requirements by sponsors related to the extracurricular programs activities and attendance by students. Quarterly reports will only be necessary for groups who receive district funds including coach/sponsor payments.
2. Establishment of guidelines for the creation and continuing recognition and/or funding of extracurricular programs.

**Section 5**

**Guidelines**

Guidelines shall ensure that the program of extracurricular activities:

1. Assesses the needs and interests of and is responsive to district students.
2. Invites the participation of parents/guardians and the community in developing extracurricular activities. Such participation shall be in accordance with the Equal Access Act.
3. Involves students in the developing and planning of extracurricular activities.
4. Ensures provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff.
5. Guards against exploitation of students.
6. Provides a variety of experiences and diversity of organizational models.

20 U.S.C. Sec.  
4071 et seq.

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7. Provides for the continuing evaluation of the program and its components.
8. Be scheduled, whenever possible, outside school hours, including travel time.
9. Ensure that all extracurricular activities are open to all students and that all students are fully informed of the available opportunities open to them.
10. Requires that overnight trips and fund- raising conform to district policies.
11. Requires that students participating in the extracurricular program adhere to the expectations and consequences established in the Student Code of Conduct.

Title 22 Sec. 12.1,  
12.4

Eligibility/Attendance

The Board believes that participation in extracurricular activities is an important part of the total educational process and encourages all students to participate in extracurricular activities; however, participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Participation shall be contingent upon successful final completion of regular curricular requirements. In order to ensure a student's continued eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities, administrators, coaches and sponsors shall evaluate each student's academic work, attendance and behavior according to established administrative regulations. The efforts that address student needs as part of the evaluation are designed to support student learning and growth in his/her academic and extracurricular program.

At a minimum, students must attend one-half of the school day, with a valid doctor's excuse for late arrival/early dismissal, to be eligible to participate in the extracurricular activity after the school day. Weekend/holiday participation in any extracurricular activity requires that a student must attend at least one-half of the school day immediately preceding the weekend/holiday. Students will not be penalized if school is cancelled. Students missing more than one-half the school day must have a valid doctor's excuse (i.e. for sickness, well-care visit for chronic conditions, stipulation in a 504 plan) to participate.

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With regards to any extracurricular activity that would involve a selection process, the selection of student participants will be conducted in a fair and consistent manner. The selection procedure(s) will be communication to the students and their parent/guardians in a timely fashion.

The responsibility for conducting a student activity, including the tryout/selection process, rests with the sponsor/coach, under the supervision of the building principal(s), and in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. All students who meet the district's academic eligibility criteria to try out and participate in activities will have the right to try out for student activities.
2. Notice to students will be made at least one month in advance and in a manner to which all students have information concerning the date, time, and place of the tryouts.
3. Tryouts will be held at reasonable dates, times, and places.
4. Students will be informed of the criteria to be used in the selection process, as well as the relative importance of the various criteria, in a reasonable time prior to the tryouts.
5. All students who try out will be given equal opportunity to demonstrate their skills and abilities.
6. A fair, reasonable, and to the extent possible, objective system of judging will be used by the sponsor/coaches in selecting the students. Judging can be done either individually by the sponsor/coaches or by the use of other qualified and competent judges if the sponsor/coach so desires.
7. Students may participate in more than one (1) activity even if these activities occur at the same time of the year. A mutually agreeable arrangement must be made by the student and all sponsors/coaches involved. If sponsors/coaches cannot agree to mutually agreeable

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arrangement, the conflict will be resolved by the administration, which includes the possibility that the student may need to make a choice between the two (2) activities.

8. Students not selected for an activity will be notified in a timely manner. Whenever possible, they will be informed of their areas of strengths/weaknesses so that the student can work to improve the areas of weakness in order to increase the possibility of selection in future tryouts.

Supervision

A member of the professional staff, approved sponsor or independent volunteer must be present at all times when a building or part of a building is being used by students. This individual must remain at the location of the activity until all students have departed.

Equal Access Act

The Board encourages secondary level students to pursue clubs and interests that may not be related directly to any of the curriculum programs offered in the District. In pursuit of such goal and in compliance with law, the Board maintains a limited open forum in which secondary students may meet for voluntary student-initiated activities unrelated directly to the curriculum, regardless of the religious, political, philosophical or other content of the speech related to such activities.

The District shall provide secondary students the opportunity for non-curriculum related student groups to meet on the school premises during non-instructional time for the purpose of conducting a meeting within the limited open forum and shall not deny equal or a fair opportunity to, or discriminate against any students who wish to conduct a meeting within that limited open forum on the basis of religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. Such meetings must be voluntary, student-initiated, and not sponsored in any way by the school, its agents or employees. Such groups shall have reasonable access to district facilities for meetings. For

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building access, students are to send requests to the building principal.

Non-instructional time is the time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins, after actual classroom instruction ends, or during the lunch hour.

The meetings of student groups cannot materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the educational activities in the school.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish the length of sessions, number per week, and other limitations deemed reasonably necessary.

The District retains the authority to maintain order and discipline on school premises in order to protect the well-being of students and employees and to ensure that student attendance at such meetings is voluntary.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 511

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.1, 12.4

Equal Access Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq.

Board Policy – 103, 103.1, 110, 218, 256, 916