

### 2430 EXTRA-CURRICULAR 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 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 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 and the student. 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 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.

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.

All students 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, religion, disability, or socioeconomic status.

### Good Disciplinary Standing

Good disciplinary standing shall mean that a student is not eligible to participate while serving a detention or suspension. Students on disciplinary probation or serving a detention or suspension may not practice, perform or compete.

- A. When a student already participating in an extracurricular activity is reported for an infraction of the rules for student conduct, the Principal shall appoint a staff committee to consider whether the student shall be removed from any or all extracurricular activities.
- B. If a student was in bad disciplinary standing the previous term, the Principal shall refer the matter to a staff committee to determine whether the student 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 eight, means successful completion of the previous year's requirements, with no failures.

For those activities commencing immediately upon return to school in September, initial eligibility will be determined at the time of the first progress report. Grades from the previous year will not be taken into account. During the school year all students will have their grades monitored regularly. On annually designated dates, the eligibility status of students will be announced to students and parent/guardians.

Continuing good academic standing requires maintenance of passing grades in all subjects during the current year.

A student 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

A student will not participate in a performance, exhibition, practice or athletic event unless he/she has been present in school that day or has been absent for an excused reason other than sickness.

If a student fails to attend a practice session for interschool athletic competition without an excuse, he/she will not be permitted to participate in the subsequent competition immediately following the absence from practice.

The district's attendance policy shall also apply.

### Reporting Ineligibility to Parents

If a student is declared ineligible, the following steps will be taken in order:

- A. Phone call by administration to parent/guardian informing of student's ineligibility;
- B. Written notification of above, to be hand-carried home by student; note to include invitation to parents to discuss with the appropriate staff member.



# POLICY

## FLORHAM PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Extra-Curricular Activities

### Implementation

The Superintendent 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 Superintendent's discretion.

39 U.S.C.A. 1701 et seq.  
N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3; 18A:42-2; 18A:42-5

Adopted: 21 March 2016

