

10400 STUDENT ACTIVITIES**10495 Co-Curricular Policy**

Student activities are an important part of the total school curriculum. Student activities provide opportunities for students to explore areas of interest and skill as well as opportunities to learn teamwork, sportsmanship, discipline, leadership, pride and fairness. For the purpose of this policy, “co-curricular activities” are sponsored or approved by the Board but generally not offered for credit toward graduation. The Board acknowledges that in certain limited circumstances activities that would otherwise be regarded as co-curricular are sometimes offered for credit, such as the awarding of a physical education credit for participation in a sports activity. For the purposes of this policy such activity shall still be regarded as a co-curricular activity even though an academic credit may be awarded for participation in it.

Participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege, offered to students, that carries with it the responsibility of good behavior. Students have no absolute rights or property interest in participation in co-curricular activities. This policy is intended to provide a general outline and code for the manner in which discipline and eligibility will be handled. The student is reminded that this co-curricular policy does not stand alone. Other District policy sections also relate to student conduct such as the Student Search Policy, the Discipline Policy and the Transportation Policy.

This policy will govern behavior, eligibility and circumstances for events that occur during school or school related activity, off school grounds at a school activity function or event, on school provided transportation and during hours a co-curricular activity is taking place including overnight trips. Additionally, this policy may apply outside of school property or school related activities if there is misconduct that causes a substantial disruption to the operation of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the conduct is likely to cause a substantial disruption to the operation of the school.

The following separate and distinct co-curricular rules and regulations are promulgated by the Board as follows:

1. The use and/or possession of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages by a student shall result in the exclusion from all co-curricular activities until the receipt of the official Hearing Officer’s Adjudication Report is approved by the Board.
2. ~~The use and/or possession of tobacco~~ **possession or use of tobacco or a vapor product by a student in violation of Policy 1420** shall result in the exclusion from all co-curricular activities for a minimum of ten (10) calendar days. **The definitions of “tobacco” and “vapor product” are contained in Policy 1420 and are incorporated herein by reference.**

3. The distribution or sale of alcoholic beverages/drugs or substances intended to mimic any substance or the possession of any mechanical device (such as pot pipe, syringe or needle) capable of utilization for taking by a student of any substance regarded as controlled or illegal shall result in exclusion from all co-curricular activities until the official Hearing Officer's Adjudication Report is approved by the Board.

4. Any student involved in the stealing of school property or the property of others will result in an exclusion of all co-curricular activities for a minimum of ten (10) calendar days.

5. A student who has been absent from school during a semester for a total of twenty (20) or more school days shall not be eligible to participate in any co-curricular activity until the student has met the prescribed requirements of Section 3 of Article 3 of the PIAA By-Laws, excepting absences certified by a physician as due to illness, injury or quarantine.

6. Students who participate in co-curricular activities must meet minimum academic requirements to maintain their eligibility. Students must maintain passing grades in four (4) full time classes or the equivalency for the nine (9) week grading period to be eligible. Students not meeting academic standards will be ineligible to participate in co-curricular activities for 15 days. At the end of the student's 15 day exclusion, the student's work will be re-evaluated to determine if she/he is maintaining passing grades in four (4) full-time classes or there equivalents, if not, the student's exclusion from co-curricular activities will be extended an additional 15 days. At that time, the work will be re-evaluated again. At the end of the school year, student's final credits in his/her subjects, rather than his/her credits for the last grading period, shall be used to determine his/her eligibility for the next grading period. The Building Administrator will notify the parent and the student of his/her ineligibility.

7. Unacceptable behavior engaged in by any student, such as, but not restricted to, inappropriate language/gestures, insubordination, hazing, threats, etc., will result in an exclusion from all co-curricular activities a minimum of ten (10) calendar days.

8. Any student who is determined to bring a weapon into any school property, any school sponsored activity or any public conveyance providing transportation to a school or school sponsored activity shall be excluded from all co-curricular activities until the official Hearing Officer's Hearing Adjudication Report is approved by the Board.

—"Weapons" are defined but not limited to, any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaka, firearm, rifle or any other tool, instrument, or implement capable of inflicting personal bodily injury.

9. The club/team/organization, sponsors and/or coaches and/or advisors, with the approval of the building administrator, may establish rules that are more stringent than the adopted rules of the co-curricular policies. Participants and their parents/guardians shall be notified in writing of these rules.

10. Permanent removal from an activity shall result in the forfeiture of awards for recognition in that particular activity.

11. When participation in a co-curricular activity requires that students pay fees for that activity, with such fees including but not necessarily being limited to ski lift tickets, participation fees, and entrance fees, the policy of the District shall be to structure the activity so that to the greatest extent possible all participating students pay the same fee. As the sponsor of all co-curricular activities, the District is to be considered the chaperone, sponsor, or similar party for such activities. Accordingly, any incentives or perks that are bestowed upon a chaperone, sponsor, etc. for participation in a co-curricular activity shall be understood to be the property of the District and shall not, for example, be used by a parent as a means to pay for his or her own child's participation in a co-curricular activity. The District, at its sole discretion, will determine how such incentives and perks will be utilized in order to benefit all of the participants in the co-curricular activity.

The discipline set forth in the above specific rules is intended to establish only a minimum discipline. Greater discipline may be imposed depending upon the circumstances of the infraction.

Any student suspended, in-school or out-of-school, or expelled from school shall also be automatically suspended or excluded from participating in all school or co-curricular activities for the duration of the school suspension or expulsion. Students enrolled in the alternative education program are not permitted to participate in co-curricular activities.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for the administration of the co-curricular policy. The Building Administrator shall be responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the rules and regulations. All schools, through the Building Administrator, sponsor, coach, and advisors, shall be responsible for informing student participants and parents/guardians of the rules and regulations.

Each school shall notify parents/guardians and students in the following manner:

1. One parent newsletter per year shall include reference to the rules and regulations.
2. Each sponsor/coach/advisor of a co-curricular activity shall inform the student participants at the start of each activity/season of the rules and regulations. Also, a copy of the rules and regulations shall be sent home with the student participants.

Adoption Date	-	September 13, 1999
Revision Date	-	June 30, 2008; May 11, 2015
Practice	-	
Legal Reference	-	
Cross Reference	-	Policy 10410; Policy 10465; Policy 1420