

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Chester Board of Education 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. 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.

Participants may be required to pay an activity fee, which will be annually established by the board and will be used to reimburse the costs associated with equipment and supplies necessary for participation in the extracurricular activity. Students eligible for the free and reduced lunch program are exempt from the activity fee.

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 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

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (continued)

activities to be determined by the school, the parents/guardians 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 chief school administrator. 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, familial status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, religion, disability, nationality, pregnancy, or socioeconomic status.

Good disciplinary standing shall mean that a student is not eligible to participate while serving a detention or suspension. A student is not eligible to participate if he/she was absent from school on the day of the activity.

Attendance

The district's attendance policy shall also apply.

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:	September 12, 2006
NJSBA Review/Update:	December 2008, August 2016, September 2018
Readopted:	April 27, 2009, September 17 2018, August 16, 2021, January 2024
Revised:	August 23, 2010, July 28, 2014

Key Words

Extracurricular Activities, Cocurricular Activities, Student Activities, Student Activities

<u>Legal References:</u>	<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 student 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.	<u>New Jersey Employer-Employee Relations Act</u>

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (continued)

- N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1 et seq. Managing for Equality and Equity in Education
- N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.2 Career education and counseling
- N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-5.18 Athletics personnel
- N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2 Required health services
- N.J.A.C. 6A:30-1.1 et seq. Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
- N.J.A.C. 6A:32-9.1 et seq. Athletics Procedures

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

Krupp v. Bd. of Ed. of Union County Reg. H.S. Dist. #1, 278 N.J. Super. 31 (App. Div. 1994) cert. den. 140 N.J. 277 (1994)

Good News Club v. Milford Central School, 121 U.S. 2093 (2001)

NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

Possible

Cross References:

- 1210 Community organizations
- 1320 Participation in out of school community activities
- *1322 Contests for students
- *2224 Nondiscrimination/affirmative action
- *3453 School activity funds
- 4143/4243 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 and technical 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.