

# POLICY

Willingboro Township

Board of Education

Section: Program

2430. CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (M)

Date Created: September, 2007

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## 2430- CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (M)

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#### **M**

The Board of Education believes that the goals and objectives of this district are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular instructional program of the school. The purpose of such co-curricular activities shall be to develop leadership capacities and good organizational skills, to aid in the socialization of pupils, and to enable pupils to explore a wider range of individual interests than might be available in the regular curricular program.

The Board shall make school facilities, supplies, and equipment available and assign staff members for the support of a program of co-curricular activities for pupils in grades six through twelve. The Board shall maintain the program of co-curricular activities at no cost to participating pupils, except that pupils may be required to provide supplies in accordance with Board Policy No. 2520 on instructional supplies and pupils may be required to assume all or part of the costs of travel and attendance at co-curricular events and trips.

For purposes of this policy, co-curricular activities are those activities conducted on or off school premises by clubs, associations, and organizations of pupils sponsored by the Board and do not include athletic competitions and practices. Co-curricular activities must be related to the curriculum but are not offered for credit toward promotion or graduation and are ordinarily conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day.

The Board expressly declines to create a limited open forum for activities initiated by pupils. Accordingly, a group of pupils who wish to meet on school premises shall apply to the Building Principal for permission to meet and must demonstrate to the Principal the relationship of their meeting to the curriculum. The Principal shall permit only those meetings that relate specifically to the curriculum.

No co-curricular activity shall be considered to be under the sponsorship of this Board unless it has been approved by the Superintendent.

Effective September 2011, all pupils shall be fully informed of the co-curricular activities/clubs available. Pupils will be fully informed via the building Principal, Guidance Department or the Principals designee, of the eligibility standards established for participation in co-curricular activities and or clubs. Co-curricular activities/clubs shall be available to all pupils who voluntarily elect to participate.

All students must maintain a 2.0 GPA (Grade Point Average) each marking period to be eligible to participate in any athletic or any co-curricular activity/club. If any student falls below a 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) during their inter-scholastic /intra-scholastic participation they will be assigned mandatory Academic Roundtable-Tutoring and be placed on a period of probation not less than

one marking period. If the student's cumulative GPA does not meet the 2.0 standard for consecutive marking periods the student shall remain on probationary status and is not eligible to participate in athletic competition until the standard is met. Mandatory Academic Roundtable –Tutoring shall remain in effect. Eligibility for the first marking period is based on final grades for the preceding school year.

Incoming Freshman who have failed two (2) core content courses their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year and failed to be fully proficient on the NJASK 8 will not be eligible for participation in Co-Curricular activities. The applicable stakeholders inclusive of,

- Principal
- Parents
- Club Sponsors
- Athletic Director
- Coaches

...will be informed annually by the Superintendent or designee of incoming freshman who are ineligible for participation in Co-Curricular activities per the previously detailed standards. Furthermore an Academic Intervention Committee composed of a school Guidance Counselor, School Administrator and Teacher will review each of the ineligible students and produce an intervention plan to be revisited no less than twice during the school year.

The school administration may revoke the privilege of participating in athletics/co-curricular activities at any time for disciplinary reasons, flagrant misconduct, poor sportsmanship, excessive absenteeism, and/or failure to meet minimum scholastic eligibility standards. External suspensions are considered absences from school are applied to eligibility requirements. No pupil who has been absent for a school day may participate in a co-curricular activity/club scheduled for the afternoon or evening of the school day for which they are absent.

Any pupil not enrolled in the Willingboro Township School District shall not be eligible to participate in any interscholastic athletic, co-curricular and/or clubs with the exception of the interscholastic athletic teams as permitted by NJSIAA Guidelines.

Students may request an appeal of their ineligibility status to the Superintendent of Schools (or assigned designee) due to hardship (death in the family, medical, tragic circumstances). Parents or legal guardians must accompany their child in order for an appeal to be considered. This appeal will be offered one time during the student athlete's four-year high school career.

The Superintendent shall prepare procedures to implement a co-curricular program and shall assess the needs and interests of the pupils of this district and provide for the continuing evaluation of the co-curricular program.

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

Adopted: 10 September 2007  
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