

ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN CO/EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All students are encouraged to participate in co/extra curricular activities. These activities offer students the opportunity to learn new skills, to compete in a variety of sports, to experience being part of a team, to develop character, positive attitudes and self-discipline, to demonstrate leadership and to realize personal accomplishments. This policy covers all activities that compete with other schools.

Participation in co/extra curricular activities is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to self, classmates, school and community. Participation is entirely voluntary.

While the Board recognizes the importance of co/extra curricular activities to students, the schools and the community, it is the Board's intent to ensure that participation in co/extra curricular activities does not interfere with student learning and academic progress. It is the Board's intent to establish eligibility standards that support the wellbeing of students and the integrity of the school's co/extra curricular programs.

High School Academic Eligibility

- In order to participate in co/extra curricular activities, scrimmages, exhibition games, performances, competitions, or tournaments a student must be a full-time student in the RSU #56 school system. For high school students this means the student must be enrolled in and passing a minimum or an equivalent of five full-time classes. Students not meeting these academic requirements are on probation.
- All students **identified by the principal/designee prior to the beginning of the season** will be checked for eligibility at the end of each grading period as well as every two weeks throughout the season.
- A student who is on academic probation may regain eligibility if his/her two-week progress report indicates that he/she is meeting the academic minimum.
- While on probation, a student will continue participating in practices and will attend home games.
- All incoming freshmen will be considered eligible at the beginning of the first marking period of the year.
- Eligibility of transfer students will be determined by the Principal and, for interscholastic activities, the Principal and/or Athletic Director.

Middle School Eligibility

In order to participate in co/extra curricular activities, scrimmages, exhibition games, performances, competitions, or tournaments students must pass all subjects to be eligible.

- All students **identified by the principal/designee prior to the beginning of the season** will be checked for eligibility at the end of each grading period as well as every two weeks throughout the season.
- A student who is on academic probation may regain eligibility if his/her two week progress report indicates that he/she is meeting the academic minimum.
- A student will continue participating in practices while on probation and will attend home games.
- All middle school students will be considered eligible at the beginning of the first marking period of each year.

Sports Physicals and Insurance

Because of the relationship between athletics and student health and safety, a sports physical will be required every two years before a student may participate in interscholastic athletic activities.

- The school nurse will review the completed physical exam form and the athletic director will maintain the updated electronic student physical exam list.
- Thereafter, a student will be required to submit a completed Parent Approval/Sports Medical update form each year to participation.
- Returned forms will be reviewed by the athletic director, kept on file in the athletic director's office and will be accessible for coaches at sporting events in the event of an emergency.

A student who suffers serious illness or injury must obtain "return to play" clearance from his/her healthcare provider before further participation in athletics is allowed.

All students must demonstrate evidence of health insurance coverage before participating in athletic activities. If the student is not insured by a family insurance policy, school insurance will be available at the student's expense.

Parent Permission for Student Athletes

A student must provide his/her coach/athletic director with a permission form signed by his/her parent or guardian before participating in the first practice.

Conduct Standards

The Superintendent/designee shall be responsible for enforcing eligibility standards prescribed in this policy. The Superintendent/designee may develop and implement other conduct rules for student athletes and participants in other co/extra curricular activities so long as they are consistent with this and other Board policies.

Students participating in interscholastic athletics and other co/extra curricular activities shall be subject to all such conduct rules, and the consequences for violating them, as well as all other rules affecting the student body.

Notification Policy

The Superintendent/designee shall be responsible for notifying students and parents of the eligibility standards articulated in this policy through the student handbook, athletic handbook, parent and participant meetings, and/or other means.

Cross Reference: JCLA- Physical Examination Policy

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