

Eligibility for Student Athletic and Extracurricular Activity Participation

The Board of Education considers participation by students in extracurricular activities, including interscholastic athletics, to be an integral part of the overall educational experience which supplements the primary goal of academic achievement. Therefore, the Board establishes the following academic attendance and behavior eligibility requirements for student participation in athletics and extracurricular activities to assure that a balance exists between academic standards, student attendance, student conduct and athletic/extracurricular activity participation. This policy and related procedures will be administered by the building principal or his/her designee as well as the Athletic Director with respect to athletics.

Academic

1. Any student failing two (2) or more subjects will be ineligible to participate in a sport and/or extracurricular activities for the marking period unless he/she agrees to the terms and conditions of a Competition Contract for a two (2) week period, during which time he/she will be permitted to practice, play, compete and perform. The student will be required to go to academic support and will be monitored by the coach, athletic director, building principal and/or activity advisor, as applicable.
 - If, after two (2) weeks the student has shown significant improvement based upon teacher progress reports, he/she will remain subject to the provisions of the Competition Contract and will be monitored every two (2) weeks for the remainder of the season. In addition, he/she will be required to go to academic support for the remainder of the season.
 - If after two (2) weeks, the student is still failing two (2) or more subjects, he/she will be subject to a Non-Competition Contract for a two (2) week period, during which time he/she will be permitted to practice but will not be permitted to play, compete or perform.
 - If, after two (2) weeks on a Non-Competition Contract, the student is still failing two (2) or more subjects, the student will be ineligible to practice, play, perform, compete or otherwise participate in extra-curricular activities until the next report card is issued and the required improvement is indicated.
2. Any student failing one (1) subject or in jeopardy of failing two (2) or more subjects (defined as having grades below 70 in two or more courses) will be required to participate in the academic support program for the remainder of the season. The student will be monitored every two (2) weeks by the coach, athletic director, building principal and/or activity advisor, as applicable.

A student once identified as having academic difficulty will be monitored continually by the coach, athletic director, building principal and/or activity advisor, as appropriate, throughout the school year until his/her report card shows passing grades.

3. A student's participation status in fall sports and activities will be based on his/her grades at the end of the previous school year. Any student either failing two (2) or more subjects at the end of the fourth quarter of a school year or failing two (2) or more subjects on the summative report card (full-year grade) will be placed on a Competition Contract for a period of two (2) weeks, starting on the first day of the student instructional year, and subject to the provisions of paragraph "1" above.
4. The student's parent/guardian will be contacted by the Athletic Director or coach, the activity advisor or building principal, as the circumstance requires, to advise them of the student's status as requiring academic support, being on a Competition Contract or a Non-Competition Contract, or being ineligible to participate. All verbal, electronic and written contacts with the parent(s)/guardian will be documented by the District.

Attendance

1. A student must attend school regularly and on time, and be in attendance for all classes scheduled in order to maintain the privilege of participation in athletics and other extra-curricular activities. The coach, athletic director, building principal and/or activity advisor, as applicable, will monitor student attendance on a daily basis.
2. Students are expected to maintain a minimum of 93% attendance, exclusive of excused absences, in all classes, which is defined as three (3) or fewer unexcused absences to class within a marking period.
3. Students that exceed three (3) unexcused absences in a class during a quarter will be ineligible for the next game, performance, or contest. For each subsequent unexcused absence in a quarter, a student will not be permitted to participate in a game, performance or competition.
4. Students who have excessive tardies and/or early departures will be addressed by the building principal or other administrator, who will regularly monitor the students. A student's continued tardiness and/or early departures may result in the student being suspended from participation in athletics and other activities.

Any elementary school student with excessive unexcused absences will be required to have the approval of the building principal to participate in extra-curricular activities.

Coaches and advisors shall be responsible for monitoring student attendance of the students participating in the particular activity(ies) and ensure compliance with this policy. The Building Administration and Athletic Director shall monitor the coaches and advisors to ensure that this policy is being followed.

Behavior

Adopted: November 23, 1998
Revised: February 29, 2000
Revised: August 30, 2011
Revised: October 25, 2011
Revised: September 27, 2012
Revised: June, 24, 2015

1. A student may be suspended from participating in extracurricular or cocurricular activities, including athletics, for an infraction of any provision of the District Code of Conduct, for violating a code of conduct issued to participants in the activity by the activity supervisor or coach, or for fighting at games/activities.
2. Any student placed on In-School Suspension (ISS) is ineligible to practice and/or play in a game or participate in extracurricular activities while in ISS.
3. Any student who is given an Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) may not practice and/or play and/or participate in extracurricular activities for the duration of the suspension, including intervening weekends. In addition, the student will not be allowed on school or District grounds or at any school or District-sponsored activity or function for the duration of the suspension. If an athlete is suspended from school, he/she will not be permitted to participate in at least one game or extracurricular activity.

Appeal

Any student who feels that his/her circumstances are extraordinary may submit an appeal, in writing, to the Superintendent of Schools or designee, within five (5) school days of notification of ineligible status. During the appeal process, the student may not practice or play and/or participate in extracurricular activities.

A copy of this policy will be distributed to all student athletes, students participating in extracurricular activities and their parents/guardians, professional staff and coaches. This policy will be explained to student athletes prior to participation in the athletics program and to students participating in extracurricular activities prior to commencement of such participation.