

POLICY GUIDE

RIVER VALE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PROGRAM
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2430 Co-Curricular Activities (M)

2430 CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Board 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 co-curricular activities shall be:

- A. To develop useful new capabilities in pupils that can lead to extension of career opportunities;
- B. To develop pupil initiative and provide for the exercise of responsibility;
- C. To develop leadership capabilities and good organizational skills;
- D. To aid pupils in the social skills;
- E. To enable pupils to explore a wider range of individual interests than might be available in the regular program.

For purposes of this policy, "co-curricular activities" shall be those activities that are sponsored or approved by the Board but are not offered for credit toward graduation. Such activities shall generally be conducted outside the regular school day, available to pupils who voluntarily elect to participate, marked by pupil 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.

Equal access to school facilities shall be granted to all activities that meet this definition.

The Superintendent shall prepare procedures to implement a co-curricular program which shall:

- A. Assess the needs and interests of the pupils of this district;
- B. Ensure the provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff;
- C. Guard against the exploitation of pupils;

- D. Provide for a variety of experiences and a diversity of organizational models;
- E. Provide for the continuing evaluation of the co-curricular program and staff;
- F. Ensure that all co-curricular activities are open to all eligible pupils and that all pupils are fully informed of the opportunities open to them.

The guidance goal for each pupil shall be a balanced program of appropriate academic studies and activities to be determined by the school, the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and the pupil. 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 pupils 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 Superintendent. Fund-raising activities of co-curricular groups must be approved by the Board.

All pupils in good disciplinary and academic standing shall have equal access to all co-curricular activities regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, affectional or sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, marital status, place of residence within the district, social or economic status, or nonapplicable disability.

Good Disciplinary Standing

Good disciplinary standing shall mean that a pupil is not eligible to participate while serving a detention or suspension. Pupils who serve more than three detentions, suspensions or a combination of the two during one term may be found not eligible to participate the following term.

- A. When a pupil already participating in a co-curricular activity is reported for an infraction of the rules for pupil conduct, the Principal shall appoint a staff committee to consider whether the pupil shall be removed from any or all co-curricular activities.
- B. If a pupil was in bad disciplinary standing the previous term, the principal shall refer the matter to a staff committee to determine whether the pupil shall be permitted to participate during the current term.

Good Academic Standing

Good academic standing at the beginning of the school year for all grades means successful completion of the previous year's requirements, with no failures.

Continuing good academic standing requires maintenance of passing grades in all subjects during the current year.

A pupil who begins the year in good academic standing, who maintains a passing grade in every subject with a minimum grade point average of seventy, may request consideration to participate in co-curricular activities at the beginning of the second semester pending the outcome of the probationary period.

Attendance

The district's attendance policy shall also apply.

Implementation

The Superintendent shall direct development of detailed regulations to ensure equitable implementation of this policy. Particular care shall be taken to ensure that all co-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 Superintendent's discretion.

39 U.S.C.A. 1701 et seq.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3; 18A:42-2; 18A:42-5

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