

Policy ~~2430.02~~ 230 – Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities

Revised policy and repeal of Policy 2430 (County-Sponsored Clubs and Activities), Policy 2431 (Interscholastic Athletics), and Policy 2340 (Field [Co-Curricular] and Other [Extra-Curricular] County-Sponsored Trips) effective upon passage

1st reading November 29, 2018

2nd reading December 11, 2018

3rd reading

Statutory authority

Administrative Guidelines

- i. Formation and Operation of Co- and Extra-curricular Clubs and Activities
- ii. Operation of Interscholastic Athletic Programs
- iii. Activities Sponsored by Community Volunteers

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish academic eligibility criteria for students to participate in extra-curricular activities both during and after normal school hours.

Applicability

This policy applies only to interscholastic athletics including cheerleading, student government, and class officers in grades 6-12. Excluded from this policy are co curricular activities which are closely related to identifiable academic programs/areas of study and which serve to complement academic curricular activities such as vocational, linguistic, mathematic, scientific, forensic, theatrical, musical, journalistic and other similar academic co-curricular activities.

Eligibility

In order to participate in the extra-curricular activities to which this policy applies, a student must meet all State and local attendance requirements and:

- A. Maintain a 2.0 average.
 1. A 2.0 average is defined as a grade-point average (GPA) of 2.0 or better on a scale where an "A" mark earns four (4) points, a "B" is awarded three (3) points, a "C" is worth two (2) points, a "D" is given a value of one (1) point, and an "F" is worth 0 points.
 2. Schools which use a numerical grading system shall convert the grades to the corresponding letter grade. Each letter grade shall be assigned the appropriate value as set forth above, and the average thereof computed to determine whether the student is eligible. No enhanced value should be given for a "plus" or "minus" designation, such as "B+" or "C-"; all grades with the same letter designation have the same numerical value in the 4.0 scale.
 3. In computing a student's "grade-point average" (GPA) for purposes of this policy, all subjects undertaken by the student and for which a final grade is recorded are to be considered. Athletic practice, including cheerleading, may not be counted as a subject. The total number of classes taken is divided into the total number of "grade points" earned to determine the GPA. Classes for which a pass/fail is awarded will be included in computing the GPA only if the student failed the class.
 4. The student's eligibility will be determined for each semester by his/her GPA the previous semester (or, in

- schools which do not use the traditional semester approach, during the previous eighteen (18) week period).
5. If a student does not maintain a 2.0 average for the semester, s/he will be ineligible for participation in the following semester. Students not meeting eligibility requirements shall be reviewed at the mid-point of the second semester (the nine (9) week point) to determine whether the student has achieved a 2.0 average.
 6. If a student does not earn a 2.0 average by the end of the second semester, s/he may attend summer school to raise the GPA so that s/he is eligible for participation at the beginning of the next school year. For purposes of computing the GPA after summer school, all of the student's grades from the second semester plus his/her grade from the summer school will be used to determine the GPA.
 7. A student who has not achieved a 2.0 GPA for the previous semester may have his/her eligibility reinstated at midsemester if the student has attained at least a 2.0 GPA. In schools where the traditional semester approach is not used, the nine (9) week point shall be utilized in place of the midsemester.
 8. In the case of students with exceptionalities as set forth in West Virginia Board of Education policy 2419, Regulations for the Education of Students with Exceptionalities, if grades are given, all grades received from placements in regular classrooms and special education classrooms should be included when computing the GPA. Exceptional students placed in ungraded programs will be eligible for participation in extra-curricular activities if their records indicate that they are making satisfactory progress in meeting the objectives of their IEP.
 9. Students who have had a break in public school attendance for any reason may be required to establish eligibility after re-enrollment in the public school. If the County accepts the transfer of credits/grades earned in the non-public setting, then those credits/grades shall be used in determining academic eligibility. If the County does not accept the transfer of credits/grades earned in the non-public setting, then eligibility must be established after re-enrollment in the public school setting. Eligibility shall be gained at midsemester (nine (9) week point) if the student has attained at least a 2.0 GPA. In schools and/or counties where the traditional semester approach is not used, the nine (9) week point shall be utilized in place of the midsemester.
 10. Those students participating in an Option Pathway GED program whose grade point average for the last semester before entering into the program as below 2.0 grade point average may become eligible if they achieve a 2.0 average or better the mid-point of the second semester (the nine (9) week point) in the same manner as students enrolled in the regular curriculum as outlined in WVBE policy 2436.10. Option students are only eligible to participate on extra-curricular activities at their designated home high school.

Student grades will be transcribed as follows each semester:

- a. Academic Courses: P, S, or N (Pass, Satisfactory Progress, or Failure (N))
- b. Career and Technical Education Courses will transcript a letter grade (A, B, C, D, or F)

A student who has an "N" in a GED class is NOT eligible to participate. A student's report card must reflect a "P" or "S" for GED classes.

11. Students who are entering public schools or other Secondary Schools Activities Commission (SSAC) member schools for the first time will be eligible for participation as follows:
 - a. Students who have not earned grades that the receiving school will accept for credit upon transfer will be eligible upon enrollment and must have a 2.0 GPA at the end of the semester in which they enroll to remain eligible.
 - b. Students who have earned grades that the receiving school will accept for credit upon transfer must have earned a 2.0 GPA in the previous semester to be eligible upon enrollment. If not eligible upon enrollment, the student shall become eligible at the midsemester (nine (9) week point) if the student has attained at least a 2.0 GPA.

B. Meet State and local attendance requirements.

1. Students who entered grade 9 prior to the 2008-2009 school year must meet the attendance requirement in

Graduation Requirements for West Virginia Public Schools: Adolescent Education (Grades 9-12) of a full day for students in the first three (3) years of grades 9-12 and at least four (4) class periods in the fourth (4th) year of grades 9-12. Students who entered grade 9 in the 2008-2009 school year and students entering grade 9 thereafter shall be fully enrolled in a full day of high school and/or college credit bearing courses during all four (4) years including the senior year.

2. Students must meet the attendance requirements of the Roane County Schools Board of Education.

Fees may be required to help support the cost of extra-curricular activities; however, the fees should be kept to a minimum in order to further equal opportunity for participation regardless of economic status. If fees are to be paid by a student who cannot afford those fees, school officials shall develop options that will allow the student to participate.

~~The Board, in an effort to protect the health and safety of its extra-curricular activities students from illegal and/or performance-enhancing drug use and abuse, thereby setting an example for all other students of the County, shall adopt a policy for drug testing of activity students. (see Policy 5530.01)~~

County-Sponsored Clubs and Activities

The Board of Education believes that the goals and objectives of this County are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, including those that are not conducted in a regular classroom but are directly related to the curriculum.

The purpose of curricular-related activities shall be to enable students to explore a wider range of individual interests than may be available in the County's courses of study but are still directly related to accomplishing the educational outcomes for students as adopted by the Board in ~~Policy 2131~~.

For purposes of this policy, curricular-related activities, also known as co-curricular activities which are activities that are closely related to identifiable academic programs and/or areas of study that serve to complement academic and technical curricula, include those activities in which:

- A. the subject matter is actually taught or will be taught in a regularly offered course;
- B. the subject matter concerns the County's composite courses of study;
- C. participation is required for a particular course;
- D. participation results in academic credit.

No curricular-related activity shall be considered to be under the sponsorship of this Board unless it meets one (1) or more of the criteria stated above and has been approved by the Superintendent.

Such activities, along with extra-curricular activities (not directly related to courses of study), may be conducted on or off school premises by clubs, associations, and organizations of students sponsored by the Board and directed by a staff advisor. Once approved, schools must implement, in an equitable manner, co-curricular and extracurricular programs, at the appropriate instructional levels, that contribute to the success of students. Additionally, co-curricular activities may take place during the instructional day.

~~The Board shall allow nondistrict sponsored, student clubs and activities during noninstructional time, in accordance with the provisions in local Board Policy 5730 – Equal Access For Nondistrict-Sponsored, Student Clubs and Activities.~~

~~Noncurricular student activities that are initiated by parents or other members of the community may be allowed under the provisions of Policy 7510 – Use of District Facilities. The Board, however will not:~~

- ~~A. assume any responsibility for the planning, conducting, or evaluating of such activities;~~
- ~~B. provide any funds or other resources other than the school facility;~~
- ~~C. allow any member of the County's staff to assist in the planning, conducting, or evaluating of such an activity during the hours s/he is functioning as a member of the staff.~~

~~No nondistrict-sponsored organization may use the name of the School System or any other name which would associate an activity with the County.~~

~~In order to be eligible for any nonacademic extra-curricular activity, a student must have maintained at least a 2.0 grade-point average as defined and described in WV West Virginia Board of Education policy 2436.10 and local Board Policy 2430.02.~~

Students identified as disabled under State Board Policy and the IDEA are subject to the eligibility standards established by this policy unless specifically exempted by the express terms of their individualized education program (IEP). An IEP can specify the criteria by which a grade will be determined for [a] course[s], given the individual student's disability.

Whenever a student becomes a member of a County-established student group or national organization such as National Honor Society, in order to remain a member, s/he must continue to meet all of the eligibility criteria and abide by the principles and practices established by the group or organization.

Students shall be fully informed of the curricular-related and extra-curricular activities available to them and of the eligibility standards established for participation in these activities. Students will be further informed that participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege and not a right and that they may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities by authorized school personnel; however, students should be provided some limited form of due process when they will be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities. County-sponsored activities shall be available to all students who elect to participate and who meet eligibility standards.

The Superintendent shall ~~prepare~~ develop administrative guidelines to implement a program of curricular-related clubs and activities and of extra-curricular activities. Such guidelines should ensure that the needs and interests of the students are properly assessed and procedures are established for continuing evaluation of each club and activity.

Interscholastic Athletics

The Board of Education recognizes the value to the students of the County and to the community of a program of interscholastic athletics for students as an integral part of the total school experience.

The program should foster the growth of school loyalty within the student body as a whole and stimulate community interest in athletics.

The game activities and practice sessions should provide many opportunities to teach the values of competition and good sportsmanship.

The program of interscholastic athletics should provide students the opportunity to exercise and test their athletic abilities in a context greater and more varied than that which can be offered by a school or the School District alone.

For purposes of this policy, the program of interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to competitive sport contests, games, events, or sport exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students of this County with those of another county.

The Board shall approve annually a program of interscholastic athletics.

The Board delegates the control, supervision and regulation of its interscholastic athletic events and band activities to the West Virginia secondary school commission" (WVSSAC).

These eligibility standards shall apply to all other co-curricular and extra-curricular activities sponsored by the Board.
(See County Policy 2430)

Students identified as disabled under relevant State and Federal laws are subject to the eligibility standards established by this policy unless specifically exempted by the express terms of their individualized education program (IEP). An IEP may specify the criteria by which a grade will be determined for (a) course(s), given the individualized student's disability.

Because the primary purpose of the athletic program is to enhance the education of participating students as indicated in this policy, the Board places top priority on maximum student participation and the values of good sportsmanship, team play, and fair competition.

Students shall be excused from classes and/or supervised study to permit their participation in interscholastic athletics, subject to State law and other policies of the Board and the State Board of Education.

The Superintendent shall annually approve, and present to the Board for its consideration, a program of interscholastic athletics which shall include, to the extent practicable, a complete schedule of events and shall secure board approval before making any changes in the said schedule.

The Superintendent shall develop appropriate administrative guidelines for the operation of the Athletic Program and a Code of Conduct for those who participate. Such guidelines should provide for the following safeguards:

A. Prior to enrolling in the sport,

1. each participant shall submit to a thorough physical examination by a Board-approved physician;

2. parents shall report any past or current health problems along with a physician's statement that any such problems have or are being treated and pose no threat to the student's participation.

B. Any student who is found to have a health condition which may be life-threatening to self or others shall not be allowed to participate until the situation has been analyzed by a physician licensed to practice in the State of West Virginia that has determined the conditions under which the student may participate.

C. Any student who incurs an injury requiring a physician's care is to have the written approval of a physician prior to the student's return to participation.

In order to minimize health and safety risks to student-athletes and maintain ethical standards, school personnel, coaches, athletic trainers, and volunteer coaches shall not dispense, supply, recommend, or permit the use of any drug, medication, or food supplement solely for performance-enhancing purposes. The Superintendent shall cause to be posted in all locker rooms in buildings that include students in any grade higher than the fifth grade, the following: "Warning: Improper use of anabolic steroids may cause serious or fatal health problems, such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, growth deformities, infertility, personality changes, severe acne, and baldness. Possession, sale, or use of anabolic steroids without a valid prescription is a crime punishable by a fine and imprisonment."

The Superintendent shall develop guidelines that require sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity characterize the manner in which the athletic program is conducted and the actions of students who participate.

The guidelines should also provide a set of behavioral expectations for each type of participant as well as a Sportsmanship Code of Conduct which each type of participant is to follow. It shall be the responsibility of each coach to cause the guidelines to be published and provided to all student athletes and their parents/guardians. The Superintendent is authorized to implement suitable disciplinary procedures against those who violate this Sportsmanship Code.

The guidelines shall describe the consequences for violations of the Sportsmanship Code and the suitable disciplinary procedures against those who violate this Sportsmanship Code.

Students will be further informed that participation in interscholastic sports is a privilege and not a right, and that they may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities by authorized school personnel; however, students should be provided some limited form of due process when they will be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities.

In order to support the WVSSAC's program to strengthen sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity, the Board commits itself to:

- A. adopt policies (upon recommendation of the administration) which reflect the Board's educational objectives and promote the ideals of good sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity;
- B. establish standards for athletic participation which reinforce the concept that athletic activities are a privilege, not a right;
- C. attend and enjoy school athletic activities, serving as a positive role model and expecting the same from parents, fans, participants, coaches, and other school personnel;
- D. support and reward participants, coaches, school administrators, and fans who display good sportsmanship;
- E. recognize the value of school athletic activities as a vital part of education.

Special Programs by Community Volunteers

The Board of Education believes in providing opportunities for students to enhance their education through a variety of appropriate co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. The Board recognizes that the community itself can be an excellent resource for such activities and welcomes the participation of community members who have special knowledge and skills that can add to the County Schools' program.

In order to ensure that activities recommended by or involving community volunteers in an instructional role are in keeping with the County Schools' philosophy and will help students better accomplish associated educational goals, the Board establishes the following guidelines for the approval of any activity involving community volunteers:

- A. Any suggested activity must be presented to the Superintendent, in writing, at least thirty (30) days prior to the planned starting date.
- B. Each request must include:
 - 1. recommendation of the building administrator;
 - 2. the purpose of the activity;
 - 3. the students for whom the activity is planned;
 - 4. the intended learning outcomes;
 - 5. an explanation of how the intended learning outcomes contribute to the educational programs;
 - 6. the names and qualifications of those community volunteers who will be participating in any aspect of the activity;
 - 7. the number of hours and total duration of the activity;
 - 8. an itemization of any of the County resources (staff, facilities, equipment, etc.) that will be needed and the estimated cost(s).

The Board delegates to the Superintendent the responsibility for approving each requested activity based on educational merit, relationship to the total County program and applicable time and/or instructional day constraints.

In addition to those established for all regular co-curricular and extra-curricular programs, the Superintendent ~~will prepare~~ shall develop any special administrative guidelines required for the proper conduct and evaluation of activities involving community volunteers.