STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS
(Co-curricular/Extra-curricular Programs)

Although the board has established academic rigor as a first priority, they recognize the educational value of organized activity outside regular class.

A broad variety of well directed student activities is encouraged.

Each activity and/or organization shall file a written statement with the school principal stating its goals, purposes, criteria for selection and membership and the nature of events they shall be engaged in.

The school board requires:

1. Each new activity or organization must have the written approval of the principal before being permitted to function. The intent of the board is to encourage and support co-curricular activities that provide a positive and constructive experience for the young people in schools. The board expects these activities to supplement the primary responsibilities of school, that is, academic preparation. Therefore, activities shall not require participants to be frequently absent from scheduled classes nor require excessive time so as to absent students from wholesome family relationships and/or opportunities for study and cultural growth.

   a. Eligibility: Students must have obtained the following credits to advance with their class to the next grade level:
      
      • Grade 9 to Grade 10  7 credits
      • Grade 10 to Grade 11  14 credits
      • Grade 11 to Grade 12  21 credits
      • Graduation from Grade 12  28 credits

   b. Students must be passing a minimum of 3 courses at all times to gain and maintain eligibility. Students can fail no more than one (1) course per marking period to maintain eligibility.

2. Each activity or organization must have a designated advisor or coach. Preference is for such advisors and coaches to be school employees.

3. Activities sponsored by outside agencies shall be carefully reviewed by the principal and approval must be granted by the principal before they become operational in the school. Entry fees may not be required.

Care shall be taken to ensure that the activity is not for the purpose of advertising a company or a product.

4. All recognized student activities shall account for their financial transactions by use of the Student Activity Fund. (See JJF).

5. All initiation ceremonies of any school organization shall be conducted on school premises under the direct supervision of an advisor or coach. No ceremony or initiation shall consist of any form of "hazing". (See JICFA).
6. Each activity and/or organization shall comply with school district policies and regulations.

7. Membership shall not be denied because of race, religion, nationality, or handicap or for any other reason unrelated to the purpose of the activity/organization and shall be limited to students currently enrolled.

Co-curricular activities are considered to be:

1. Any organization/group/club/team which meets on a scheduled basis over a period of time; may be scheduled to compete with other schools; may elect or appoint officers. Examples: (not limited to) interscholastic athletics, debate, cheerleading, pep clubs, F.H.A., Key Club, National Honor Society, Student Council, Class Officers, Yearbook, Olympics of the Mind, Band, Drama.

2. Some activities are carried out in conjunction with regular courses, e.g., band, drama. In such classes ineligible students will continue in class, but will be ineligible to take part in out-of-class activity, performances, or competition. The out-of-class participation shall not affect class grades.

3. Instructional field trips for a classroom are excluded from these policies.

4. All student participation shall be on a voluntary basis.

Eligibility:

1. For all activities a student must be a member in good standing. A member in good standing has:

   a. Obtained the credits necessary to advance with the class each year of secondary school experience.

   b. Is free of any suspension from school or class

   c. Has failed no more than one (1) course, regardless of the number of classes enrolled, in each marking period.

2. Any student who has failed two (2) or more units of study in the previous marking period should be deemed ineligible for any interscholastic activity until the next marking period when the criteria for eligibility has been met.

3. Exceptions for participation by those with handicapping conditions may be granted by the principal only when the handicap prevents the student from meeting the class status requirement.

Student Responsibilities:

1. To seek prior and proper consent before organizing an activity.

2. To meet the approved criteria for membership to activities

3. To participate regularly and to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner.

4. To operate according to the policies and regulations of the district and the school.
5. To select activities that do not interfere with their academic programs.

Student Rights:

1. To belong and take part in activities for which they qualify and which contribute to their personal goals.

2. To have an elected representative body to express needs and concerns.

3. To use available school facilities and to have access to available communications.

The Superintendent of Schools will prepare and maintain regulations to implement these policies. Such regulations shall be submitted to the board for review and comment.