

Baldwin-Whitehall School District

Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Extracurricular Activities
Code	122
Status	Second Reading
Adopted	February 8, 2006
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Purpose

The Board believes that the district's goals and objectives are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular curricular program of the schools.

All learning experiences offered by the schools, curricular and extracurricular, shall be planned and integrated toward attainment of the district's educational objectives.

Definition

For purposes of this policy, extracurricular activities shall be those programs that are sponsored or approved by the Board and are conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day; are marked by student participation in the processes of initiation, planning, organizing, and execution; and are equally available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate.[5]

For purposes of this policy, an athletic activity shall mean all of the following:[6]

1. An athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with the school, including cheerleading, club-sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations.
2. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the school.
3. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities.

Authority

The Board shall make school facilities, supplies and equipment available and shall assign staff members for the support of extracurricular activities for students. Such availability and assignment shall comply with any applicable requirements of the Equal Access Act.[1][2][3]

Any extracurricular activity shall be considered under the sponsorship of this Board when it has been approved by the Board upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

The Board shall maintain the program of extracurricular activities at no cost to participating resident students, except that:

1. The Board's responsibility for provision of supplies shall carry the same exemptions as listed in the Board's policy on regular school supplies.[4]
2. Where eligibility requirements are necessary or desirable, the Board shall be informed and must approve the establishment of eligibility standards before they are operable.

The Board directs that no student may participate in extracurricular activities who has not:

- 1. Met the requirements for academic eligibility.**
- 2. Attended school regularly.**
- 3. Been in attendance, a minimum of four (4) periods, on the day of the extracurricular activity.**

Exceptions to school attendance include:

- 1. Obtaining professional health care or therapy service rendered by a licensed practitioner of the healing arts in any state, commonwealth, or territory.**
- 2. Family emergency.**
- 3. Required court attendance.**
- 4. Death in family.**
- 5. Participation in a project sponsored by a statewide or countywide 4-H, FFA or combined 4-H and FFA group, upon prior written request.**
- 6. Observance of a religious holiday observed by bona fide religious group, upon written parental request.**
- 7. Nonschool sponsored educational tours or trips, if the following conditions are met.
(*Please reference Administrative Regulation 204-AR-2):**
 - a. The parent/guardian submits a written request for excusal prior to the absence.**
 - b. The student's participation has been approved by the Superintendent or designee.**
 - c. The adult directing and supervising the tour or trip is acceptable to the parents/guardians and the Superintendent.**
- 8. College or postsecondary institution visit, with prior approval.**
- 9. Other urgent reasons. Urgent reasons shall be strictly construed and require approval by the Superintendent or designee.**

Delegation of Responsibility

Each school year, prior to participation in an athletic activity, every student athlete and his/her parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of the following: [\[7\]](#)
[8]

1. Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet.

2. Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Information Sheet.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and disseminate procedures to implement the extracurricular activities program.

Guidelines

Guidelines shall ensure that the program of extracurricular activities:

1. Assesses the needs and interests of and is responsive to district students.
2. Ensures provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff.
3. Guards against exploitation of students.
4. Provides a variety of experiences and diversity of organizational models.
5. Provides for continuing evaluation of the program and its components.
6. Ensures that all extracurricular activities are open to all students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.
7. Does not permit students to be absent from school for a period exceeding three (3) consecutive school days.

8. In order to be eligible for extracurricular activities, a student must pursue a curriculum defined and approved by the principal as full time curriculum. A student shall be placed on academic probation if they fail to maintain a 2.0 overall grade point average and passing grades in English, mathematics, social studies, and science (if scheduled). A student on academic probation shall have their academic progress monitored by the principal or designee on a weekly basis and shall remain on academic probation for the remainder of the season for the activity in which the student is participating.

A student will be declared academically ineligible for extracurricular activities if they fail to maintain a minimum of passing grades in at least four full-credit subjects, or the equivalent, as of each Friday during a grading period. Additionally, any student on academic probation that is not making adequate progress as determined by the principal or designee shall also be declared ineligible as of each Friday during a grading period.

Equal Access Act

The district shall provide secondary students the opportunity for noncurriculum related student groups to meet on the school premises during noninstructional time for the purpose of conducting a meeting within the limited open forum on the basis of religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. Such meetings must be voluntary, student-initiated, and not sponsored in any way by the school, its agents or employees. Noninstructional time is the time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends.[\[3\]](#)

The meetings cannot materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the educational activities in the school.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish the length of sessions, number per week, and other limitations deemed reasonably necessary.

The district retains the authority to maintain order and discipline on school premises in order to protect the well-being of students and employees and to ensure that student attendance at such meetings is voluntary.

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| Legal | 1. 24 P.S. 511 |
| | 2. Pol. 103 |
| | 3. 20 U.S.C. 4071 et seq |
| | 4. Pol. 110 |
| | 5. 22 PA Code 12.1 |
| | 6. 24 P.S. 5322 |
| | 7. 24 P.S. 5323 |
| | 8. Pol. 123.1 |