



SECTION: PROGRAMS

POLICY: 122

**TITLE: EXTRACURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES**

ORIGINAL: November 28, 1983
CURRENT REVISION: February 1,
2021

**LAST REVIEWED BY THE
COMMITTEE:**

I. PURPOSE

The Wissahickon Board of School Directors believes that a student must meet approved educational standards and adhere to the rules and regulations of the school in order to participate in student activities.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. For purposes of this policy, extracurricular activities shall be those programs that are sponsored or approved by the Board but are not offered for credit toward graduation. Extracurricular activities 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.
- B. For purposes of this policy, an athletic activity shall mean all of the following:
 - a. 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.
 - b. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the school.
 - c. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities.

III. POLICY

- A. 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 be in accordance with the Equal Access Act.
- B. The Board encourages middle and high school students to pursue clubs and interests that may not be related directly to any of the curriculum programs offered in the District. In pursuit of such goal and in compliance with law, the Board maintains a limited open forum in which middle and high school students may meet for voluntary student-initiated activities unrelated directly to the curriculum, regardless of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech related to such activities.
- C. 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.
- D. Any changes to the established allocations for the extracurricular activities program shall be made annually by the Board during development of the annual budget.

- E. The Board shall maintain the program of extracurricular activities at no cost to participating students, except that:
 - a. The Board's responsibility for provision of supplies shall carry the same exemptions as listed in the Board's policy on regular school supplies.
 - b. Students may assume all or part of the costs for travel and attendance at extracurricular events and trips.
 - c. Where eligibility requirements are necessary or desirable, the Board shall be informed and must approve the establishment of eligibility standards before they are operable.
- F. Equal Access Act
 - a. The District shall provide secondary students the opportunity for noncurriculum-related student groups to meet on the school premises during non-instructional 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.
 - b. Non-instructional time is the time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins, after actual classroom instruction ends, or during the lunch hour.
 - c. The meetings of student groups cannot materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the educational activities in the school.
 - d. The Superintendent or designee shall establish the length of sessions, number per week, and other limitations deemed reasonably necessary.
 - e. 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.

IV. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

- A. Each school year, prior to participation in an athletic activity, every student athlete and their parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of the following:
 - a. Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet.
 - b. Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Information Sheet.
- B. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the program of extracurricular activities:
 - a. Assesses the needs and interests of and is responsive to District students.
 - b. Involves students in developing and planning extracurricular activities.
 - c. Ensures provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff.
 - d. Guards against exploitation of students.
 - e. Provides a variety of experiences and diversity of organizational models.
 - f. Provides for continuing evaluation of the program and its components.
 - g. Ensures that all extracurricular activities are open to all students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.
- C. The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative guidelines to implement the extracurricular activities program and any accompanying fees. All student groups shall adhere to Board policy and administrative guidelines.

V. REFERENCES

22 PA Code 12.1

24 P.S. 5322

24 P.S. 511

20 U.S.C. 4071 et seq

Pol. 103

Pol. 103.1

Pol. 218

24 P.S. 5323

Pol. 123

Pol. 123.2

22 PA Code 12.4

24 P.S. 5321 et seq