

**Extracurricular Activities**

The Bethany Board of Education (Board) believes that robust and diverse extracurricular activities reinforce the instructional program, give students practice in democratic self-government and provide social and recreational activities. Extracurricular activities also serve to enhance school spirit and students' sense of belonging.

No student shall be denied equal access or a fair opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities based on consistent criteria as established by the advisor/coach of said activity.

**Supervision**

Whenever or wherever held, conducted under the name of the school, Bethany Public School District (District) or any class or organization thereof, extracurricular activities shall be based on active participation by students with adequate supervision, guidance or instruction by a person or persons under the supervision of District administration. The Board requires any student activity, including school dances, to be held in the school facility or at a District approved location and restricted to Bethany Community School students only.

The Board shall include an annual budget line item for extracurricular activities approved by the Superintendent. Prior approval by the Superintendent is required for all activities that were not funded in the previous school year, even if the activity has been funded in prior years. With prior approval by the Superintendent, staff members who participate as an advisor or coach will be reimbursed for eligible expenses specifically related to the extracurricular activity.

**Non-Secret Groups**

Extracurricular groups shall not be secret in nature.

Legal Reference:       Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. § 4071 et seq.  
                              *Westside Community Board of Education v. Mergens*

Policy adopted:       September 9, 1991  
Policy revised:       June 10, 2015  
Policy revised:       April 8, 2020