SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: EXTRACURRICULAR

ACTIVITIES AND INTERSCHOLASTIC

ATHLETICS

ADOPTED: November 19, 2012

REVISED:

122. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

1. Purpose

The Board is committed to supporting a diversified and balanced program of interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities. The Board recognizes the educational values inherent in student participation and supports the concept of student organizations for such purposes as building social relationships, developing interests in a specific area, and gaining an understanding of the elements and responsibilities of good citizenship as well as sportsmanship.

2. Definition Title 22 Sec. 12.1 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.

Interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to competitive or exhibition sport contests, games or events involving individual students or teams of students when such events occur between schools within this district or outside this district.

3. Authority SC 511 20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq Pol. 103, 103.1 The Board shall make school facilities, supplies and equipment available and shall approve the participation of staff members for the support of extracurricular activities for students. Such availability and participation shall be in accordance with the Equal Access Act.

Title 22 Sec. 4.27 34 CFR Sec. 106.41 Pol. 103, 103.1 It shall be the policy of the Board to offer opportunities for participation in all programs to male and female students on as equal a basis as is practicable and without discrimination, in accordance with law and regulations.

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	The Board encourages secondary level students to pursue sports, 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 secondary 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.
SC 511	The Board shall approve a program of interscholastic athletics and shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that all facilities utilized in that program, whether or not the property of this Board, properly safeguard both players and spectators and are kept free from hazardous conditions.
	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 and building principal.
Pol. 110	The Board shall maintain the program of extracurricular activities at no cost to participating students, except that the Board's responsibility for provision of supplies shall carry the same exemptions as listed in the Board's policy on regular school supplies.
SC 511	The Board directs that no student may participate in extracurricular activities or interscholastic athletics who has not:
	1. Met the requirements for academic eligibility throughout the school year.
Pol. 204	2. Attended school regularly.
	3. Been in attendance on the day of the event or practice for the hours required.
Pol. 218	4. Complied with the rules and requirements of the Student Code of Conduct and Board policies and administrative regulations related to student discipline.
	5. Returned all school equipment and/or supplies previously used.
	Off-Campus Activities
Pol. 218	This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would violate the Code of Student Conduct if:
	1. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.

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- 2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity or is an interscholastic athlete and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.
- 3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.
- 4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct.
- 5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.
- 4. Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement the extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics program. All student groups shall adhere to Board policy and administrative regulations.

5. Guidelines

The district shall ensure that the programs:

- 1. Assess the needs and interests of and is responsive to district students.
- 2. Ensure provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff.
- 3. Guard against exploitation of students.
- 4. Provide a variety of experiences and diversity of organization.
- 5. Provide for continuing evaluation of the program and its components.

Title 22 Sec. 12.1, 12.4 6. Ensure that all extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics are open to all students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.

All students who participate in interscholastic athletics must have proof of insurance or a waiver on file in the nurse's office.

Academic Assistance Program

Pol. 116

An Academic Assistance Program (AAP) shall be established by the district for middle school and high school students whose attendance is required to maintain extracurricular academic eligibility and for other purposes. AAP shall not be intended to replace instruction in the classroom or to limit the ability of the student to receive help from their classroom teacher during the instructional day. Likewise, students may not be assigned to AAP as a means of avoiding the delivery of specially designed instruction, or necessary re-teaching.

Intramural Program/Club

The purpose of the intramural program is to provide opportunities for participation in athletic activities to students who are not actively engaged in the interscholastic athletic program. The intramural athletic program will provide instruction and training to students. Provisions will be made that all students will have an opportunity to participate and compete regardless of degree or skill. All programs must be approved by the Board.

Equal Access Act

20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq

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. 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, after actual classroom instruction ends, or during the lunch hour.

The meetings of student groups 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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References:
School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 4.27, 511
State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.1, 12.4
Equal Access Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq.
Discrimination in Athletics, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations – 34 CFR Sec. 106.41
Board Policy – 000, 103, 103.1, 110, 116, 204, 218