

SANCTIONING AND EVALUATION  
OF ATHLETIC AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 1.0 It is the Board's desire to offer students athletic and co-curricular activities that provide diverse, developmentally appropriate opportunities and encourages student participation. The Board recognizes that resources may not be available to fund all of the athletic and co-curricular activities in which students and the community have an interest. In order to provide students with meaningful athletic and co-curricular activities experiences while maintaining high quality, sustainable programs, the Board adopts this policy governing sanctioning and evaluation of the School Department's athletic and co-curricular activities.
- 2.0 Through sanctioning, the School Department assumes responsibility for, and control of, a particular athletic or co-curricular activity. Sanctioning requires Board approval. The School Department assumes responsibility for and control of only those athletic and co-curricular activities the Board has designated as school sanctioned.
- 3.0 The Board will sanction only those activities that are consistent with its philosophy and policies and with regulations established by the appropriate governing bodies, including the Maine Principals' Association (MPA). Sanctioning does not mean that funding will be provided in whole or in part through the School Department's budget. Sanctioning is required even for activities that may be funded in whole or in part by booster organizations.
- 4.0 Sanctioning of Athletic and Co-Curricular Activities
  - 4.1 Sanctioning is defined as the formal approval of an activity by the Board, stating that the activity will be representative of Scarborough and requiring that the activity abide by the Board's policies and procedures.
    - 4.1.a Sanctioning allows for the following:
      - 4.1.a.1 Use of the school name
      - 4.1.a.2 Use of school transportation, resources, and facilities as approved by the Board
      - 4.1.a.3 Eligibility for league play and tournament participation
      - 4.1.a.4 Liability coverage under the School Department
      - 4.1.a.5 Eligibility for school awards
      - 4.1.a.6 School Department governance
    - 4.1.b Sanctioning does not imply funding.
- 5.0 CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL AND EVALUATION OF ATHLETIC AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
  - 5.1 The superintendent/designee shall be responsible for developing a process for evaluating potential athletic and co-curricular activities and assessing the viability of

existing programs. The process shall take into consideration the following factors, which shall be applied consistently to all programs:

- 5.1.a Student body interest;
  - 5.1.b Community interest;
  - 5.1.c Gender equity;
  - 5.1.d Impact on facilities;
  - 5.1.e Impact on existing programs;
  - 5.1.f Impact on administration and staff;
  - 5.1.g Expenses;
  - 5.1.h Availability of competition;
  - 5.1.i Potential to field competitive teams;
  - 5.1.j Alignment with Board philosophy and policies; and
  - 5.1.k Availability of funds, consideration of extraordinary costs (e.g., rental of facilities, transportation, specialized equipment), and other relevant data.
- 5.2 The process should include a scale for weighting and rating these criteria and for reporting a total score that may be used for comparison purposes. The Superintendent shall present to the Board for its review and approval the process that has been developed.

## 6.0 APPROVAL OF NEW ATHLETIC AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 6.1 Sanctioning of all new interscholastic athletic and co-curricular activities must be approved in advance. The Superintendent shall be responsible for making and supporting recommendations to the Board at least six months prior to the proposed starting date. Recommendations are to be made based on data from the evaluation process.
- 6.2 The Board may impose conditions that must be met for the activity to be approved.
- 6.3 Following initial approval, new activities will be placed on a two-year probationary status.
- 6.4 Six months prior to the end of the probationary period, the Superintendent must submit a report to the Board including recommendations and support for continued

Board approval. The Board may provide for continuing approval, deny approval, or extend the probationary status for one additional year. Probationary status shall not be extended beyond an additional two years.

## 7.0 EVALUATION OF EXISTING OR ONGOING SCHOOL-SANCTIONED ATHLETIC AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 7.1 Every athletic and co-curricular activity will be reviewed at least every five-year cycle.
- 7.2 The purpose of evaluation is to ensure that all existing or previously approved activities continue to meet the standards and criteria established by the Board.
- 7.3 The Board may authorize an activity to be reviewed out of sequence based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent or by a majority vote of the Board.
- 7.4 The evaluation of existing activities will be conducted using the same process used to assess proposed programs.
- 7.5 Based upon the data, the Superintendent shall make a recommendation to the Board as to whether the activity should be continued. The Board may vote to discontinue sanctioning any activity that it deems no longer sustainable or in keeping with Board philosophy, standards or criteria.

## 8.0 DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

- 8.1 The Superintendent may appoint a program evaluation or review committee to perform evaluations of proposed and existing athletic and co-curricular activities. Any such committee must have balanced representation including the Superintendent and/or Athletic Director, a high school administrator, a middle school administrator, teachers who are employed as coaches/advisors, a student, and community members. Any such committee will use the process for program evaluation.
- 8.2 The committee shall be advisory to the Superintendent.

Cross Reference:     JJJ - Philosophy of Athletics  
                          JJIBA - Hiring and Evaluation of Coaches  
                          JJIBB - Sportsmanship  
                          JJIBC - Relations with Booster Groups (or alternative code KJA)

Adopted:     July 19, 2007

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