

**Board of Education Policy**

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

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**Introduction**

The Board recognizes and acknowledges that student academic success is the first and foremost priority and that extracurricular and co-curricular activity programs are valuable extensions of the academic program. The Board recognizes that a great deal of learning takes place outside of the formal classroom. The primary objective of any academic institution is to help students grow and develop into mature, responsible young adults who are solid citizens. The Board encourages students to participate and become involved in extracurricular and co-curricular activities in the hope that students will demonstrate a sense of purpose and develop more fully as young adults.

Participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities is a privilege earned by students who are in good academic standing and demonstrate good citizenship as discussed in this policy. Students involved in extracurricular and co-curricular activities are expected to maintain satisfactory academic success. Students having difficulty in their course work are expected to seek additional assistance. An objective of this policy is to help insure that the student participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities or school functions will not detract from any concentration of academic achievement. This policy applies to all students and is necessary to promote the District's goal of student academic success. All participants, including athletes, will be informed that they have the obligation to act in a responsible manner because of the leadership roles they play in the school environment and as a result are expected to adhere to a ban on the consumption/use of alcohol, drugs (other than those appropriately prescribed), and/or tobacco products on or off campus.

“Training rules” are generally accepted as a condition of participation in student athletics, and may include attendance at practices, individual training programs, etc. Similar rules or rehearsal, attendance, and practice may apply to other extracurricular or co-curricular activities such as band, orchestra, chorus, and theater/drama. Advisors/coaches will provide these expectations in writing at the beginning of the school year or season, as appropriate.

**High School Eligibility**

All students in the Miller Place High School must make learning their primary goal. Students having difficulty in their course work, as noted in their five (5) week academic progress report, are encouraged to seek additional assistance to avoid ineligibility. To continue participating in extracurricular and co-curricular activities they must maintain an acceptable academic level of performance.

- Academic eligibility is determined by the achievement grades of the preceding 10-week period except in September, which will be determined by the final grade earned the previous year, and in summer school.
- Students who receive two (2) or more failing grades or who is non-credited in a marking period are academic ineligible for participation in extracurricular or co-curricular activities.
- A student must be in attendance during the regular school day to participate in an extracurricular and co-curricular activity that day; and
- Any student signing in late to school after 8:37 a.m. will be ineligible for participation in any extracurricular and co-curricular activity for that day unless prior approval has been

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obtained from the administration. Students who sign out of school may not participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities for that day unless prior approval has been obtained from the administration.

- Suspension from school makes the student ineligible to participate in any extracurricular and co-curricular activity on the day of suspension.

**High School Ineligibility Procedure**

- A list of all ineligible students will be sent by the administration to all coaches and advisors at the completion of each marking period.
- Parents/guardians will receive written notification from the building principal or his/her designee of their child's ineligibility.

**Probationary Status Procedure**

The ineligible student, parent/guardian, or Activity Advisor may make an appeal to the Extracurricular Eligibility Committee. The student's teachers, coaches, and/or advisors will be notified of the time and local of any appeal hearing. A student whose appeal has been granted by the Extracurricular Eligibility Committee will be moved from Academic Ineligibility to Academic Probation status. Probationary status may be granted by the Extracurricular Eligibility Committee if a student can provide evidence of extenuating circumstances, which impacted his/her academic performance. The Extracurricular Eligibility Committee will send notification to the principal whenever a student is granted Probationary Status. Parents/guardians will receive written notification of Probationary Status form the principal.

Academic Probationary students are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities while on probation. Academic Probationary students must attend mandatory Academic Probation Study Hall Monday through Thursday (or Operation Success with prior approval), make academic progress, and refrain from prohibited conduct as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. A student's academic progress will be monitored. Test scores, class attitude, attendance, cooperation and homework will be checked bi-weekly. A student who is reinstated by the Extracurricular Eligibility Committee due to extenuating circumstances will submit bi-weekly progress reports to the principal and/or his/her designee responsible for extracurricular eligibility.

If students do not meet the requirements of Probation, they will no longer be on Probationary Status and be declared ineligible by the principal and/or his/her designee. A student can be removed from Academic Probation and be considered ineligible for the remainder of the quarter if they receive poor reports form teachers, suspensions, and/or repeated detention. A students that is academically ineligible cannot participate in extracurricular activities.

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**Extracurricular and Co-curricular Eligibility Committee**

The building principal will appoint the following Eligibility Committee members:

- Building administrator;
- Guidance counselor;
- Athletic director or coach or class advisor or club advisor;
- Teacher or Social worker or Psychologist;
- Special Education Teacher

The purpose of the committee is to hear appeals to determine student’s eligibility status due to attendance or academic performance.

All recommendations regarding the eligibility, ineligibility, or probationary status of students will be achieved through majority vote of the Extracurricular Eligibility Committee.

Students may appeal the committee’s decision to the building principal.

**Middle School Eligibility**

The Board recognizes and acknowledges that the middle school student is in a transitional period in his/her education and has modified the eligibility requirements to be age appropriate.

Students having difficulty in their course work, as noted in their five (5) week academic progress report, are encouraged to seek additional assistance to avoid ineligibility.

All students in the North Country Road Middle School must make learning their primary goal and to continue participating in extracurricular and co-curricular activities they must maintain an acceptable academic level of performance:

- Academic eligibility is determined by the achievement grades of the preceding 10-week period except in September, which will be determined by the final grade earned the previous year, and in summer school;
- Students who receive two (2) or more failing grades or who is non-credited in a marking period are placed on probationary status concerning eligibility;
- A student must be in attendance during the regular school day to participate that day; and
- Any student signing in late to school after 9:10 a.m. will be ineligible for participation in any extracurricular and co-curricular activity for that day unless prior approval has been obtained from the administration. Students who sign out of school may not participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities for that day unless prior approval has been obtained from the administration;
- Suspension from school makes the student ineligible to participate in any extracurricular and co-curricular activity on the day of suspension.

**Middle School Probationary Status Procedure**

A list of all probationary status students will be sent by the administration to all coaches and advisors at the completion of each marking period. Parents/guardians will receive written notification from the building administrator and/or his/her designee of their child’s probationary

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status. Although suspension from participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities does not require a full hearing pursuant to Section 3214 of the Education Law, a probationary students will be given the opportunity to appear informally before the building principal and/or his/her designee and present his/her side of the story as part of a general discussion of the conduct under review.

Academic Probationary students are eligible to participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities while on probation. A student who is on Probationary Status will be required to attend after school mandatory Academic Center for the next quarter, submit a bi-weekly progress report to the administrator responsible for extracurricular and co-curricular eligibility, and refrain from prohibited conduct as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. The bi-weekly progress report should present evidence form his/her teacher that the students is making progress and is not failing. Students who do not provide the bi-weekly progress report will be suspended from all extracurricular and co-curricular activities for one (1) week. Each subsequent lack of documentation will result in an additional one (1) week’s suspension. At the end of the quarter, if the student demonstrates serious and determined effort and is attested to by the classroom teachers(s), the student may be removed from probationary status by the principal and/or his/her designee. If at the end of five (5) weeks, the student fails to receive approval from the classroom teachers in which the student is failing; there will be an administrative review conducted by the principal and/or his/her designee with the possibility of suspension from all extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

The Committee on Special Education has the ability to determine a student’s eligibility on an individual basis.

Cross Ref: 5310.4, Code of Conduct

Ref: Education Law §§ 1709; 2801

Bush v. Dassel-Cokato Board of Ed., 745 F. Supp. 562 (D. Minn 1990)

Matter of O’Conner v. Board of Ed., 65 Misc.2d 40 (1970)

Matter of Wilson, 28 EDR 254, Dec. No. 12,098 (1988)

Matter of Kiely, 24 EDR 138, Dec. No. 11,345 (1984)

Matter of Miller, 23 EDR 23, Dec. No. 11,118 (1983)

Matter of Moore, 22 EDR 180, Dec. No. 10,922 (1982)

Matter of Clark, 21 EDR 542, Dec. No. 10,784 (1982)

Matter of Vetter, 20 EDR 547, Dec. No. 10,515 (1981)

**Adopted:** 09/15/1987

**Reviewed:** 03/12/2002 04/17/2007 05/26/2010 02/25/2015 03/17/2020

**Revised:** 08/13/2003 05/16/2007 06/23/2010 03/25/2015 04/29/2020