

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 PROGRAMS
Title	Extracurricular Activities
Code	122
Status	Active
Adopted	May 10, 2010
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Purpose

The Board recognizes the educational values inherent in student participation in extracurricular activities and supports the concept of student organizations for such purposes as enriching the educational experience, building social relationships, developing interests in a specific area, promoting civic engagement and gaining an understanding of the elements and responsibilities of teamwork, leadership and good citizenship.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, **extracurricular activities** refers to programs, including athletic activities, that are sponsored or approved by the Board, are conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day and are equally available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate.

For purposes of this policy, an **athletic activity** shall mean all of the following:[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

1. 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.
2. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the school.
3. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities.

Authority

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 and other applicable laws, regulations and Board policies.[\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[6\]](#)[\[7\]](#)

The Board encourages secondary level 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 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.[3][7]

Any extracurricular activity shall be considered under the sponsorship of this Board when it has been approved by the Superintendent upon recommendation of the building principal.

The Board shall maintain the program of extracurricular activities at no cost to participating students, except that:

1. The Board's responsibility for provision of supplies shall carry the same exemptions as listed in the Board's policy on regular school supplies.[8]
2. Students may assume all or part of the costs for travel and attendance at extracurricular events and trips.
3. Booster organizations may be asked to off-set specific costs of extracurricular programs.

Where eligibility requirements are necessary or desirable, the Board shall determine the standards for eligibility to be met by all students participating in an extracurricular activity.[4][9]

The Board directs that no student may participate in extracurricular activities who has not:

1. Met the requirements for academic eligibility.[4]
2. Complied with the requirements of applicable handbooks, Board policies, and administrative regulations.[10][11][12]
3. Adhered to other applicable conduct standards.

Off-Campus Activities

Student conduct that occurs off school property or during nonschool hours shall be addressed in accordance with the provisions of the student discipline policy regarding on and off-campus activities.[12]

Delegation of Responsibility

Each school year, prior to participation in an athletic activity, every student athlete and their parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgment of receipt and review of the following: [2][10][11][14]

1. Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet.
2. Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Information Sheet, that includes information about electrocardiogram testing.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement the extracurricular activities program.

Guidelines

Guidelines shall ensure that the program of extracurricular activities:

1. Assesses the needs and interests of and is responsive to district students.
2. Involves students in developing and planning extracurricular activities.
3. Ensures provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff.
4. Guards against exploitation of students.
5. Provides a variety of experiences and diversity of organizational models.
6. Provides for continuing evaluation of the program and its components.
7. Ensures that all extracurricular activities are open to all students, without discrimination, and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.[\[15\]](#)[\[16\]](#)

Legal

[1. 24 P.S. 5322](#)

[2. 24 P.S. 1425](#)

[3. 20 U.S.C. 4071 et seq](#)

[4. 24 P.S. 511](#)

5. Pol. 103

6. Pol. 103.1

7. Pol. 122.1

8. Pol. 110

[9. 22 PA Code 12.3](#)

10. Pol. 123.1

11. Pol. 123.2

12. Pol. 218

13. Pol. 204

[14. 24 P.S. 5323](#)

[15. 22 PA Code 12.1](#)

[16. 22 PA Code 12.4](#)

[24 P.S. 5321 et seq](#)

Board of Education of Westside Community Schools v. Mergens, 496 U.S. 226 (1990)

Mahanoy Area School District v. B.L., 594 U.S. 180 (2021)