# 5305 ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education has the authority to establish reasonable standards as prerequisites for eligibility for co-curricular and extracurricular activities. These standards apply to entry qualifications as well as to continued participation in such activities. Advisors/Coaches must disseminate a copy of the expected standards of conduct to all students and parents, and participating students should be individually informed of the application and scope of such standards.

Eligibility requirement should include academic standards, behavioral standards, and training standards. These standards should be applied equally to all student participants. All student participants, including athletes, should be informed that they have the obligation to act in a responsible manner because of the leadership roles they play in the school environment.

Advisors/coaches must specify minimum school attendance requirements, and the minimum grade point average (GPA) they expect student participants to maintain. More than two failures disqualifies student participation until such time as all coursework is passed. All such standards must be reasonable. The relationship between a student's GPA and his/her eligibility must be clearly explained to all student participants. *Standards and requirement must conform to guidelines stated in the Student Handbook, "Eligibility For Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities."*

*Behavioral standards include a ban on consumption/use of alcoholic beverages, drugs and/or tobacco products. These students also extend to student conduct off school grounds, including student attendance at parties off school grounds where alcohol and/or illegal drugs are present.*

"Training rules" are generally accepted as a condition of participation in student athletics, and may include attendance at practices, individual training programs, etc.

Although suspension from participation in an extracurricular *and co-curricular* activity does not require a full hearing pursuant to Section 3214 of the Education Law, a student must be given the opportunity to appear informally before the disciplinarian and/or disciplinary committee, and present his/her side of the story as part of a general discussion of the conduct under review.

Ref:

Education Law §§1709(3); 2801

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

*Mazzotte v. Moriah Central School Board,* N.Y. Supreme Court (Special Term 1984)

*Matter of O'Conner v. Bd. of Ed.,* 65 Misc.2d 40, 316 NY2d 799 (1970)

*Matter of Wilson,* 28 EDR 254 (1988)

*Matter of Keily,* 24 EDR 138 (1984)

*Matter of Miller,* 23 EDR 23 (1983)

*Matter of Moore,* 22 EDR 180 (1982)

*Matter of Clark,* 21 EDR 542 (1982)

*Matter of Vetter,* 20 EDR 547 (1981)

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