Extracurricular Clubs and Organizations & Athletics

The Board of Education supports a comprehensive program of curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities consistent with the District's educational mission, belief statements, learner outcomes, and the fundamental values of a public education. The co-curricular activities extend and complement the schools' instructional program. Co-curricular activities provide students with valuable life-long skills. Participants in co-curricular programs work cooperatively with fellow students to set and achieve group and personal objectives, acquire self-discipline and adhere to an exemplary code of conduct. Support and provision of the co-curricular program are recognition that many students may learn these necessary skills in an environment complementary to the classroom. Participation in co-curricular and extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a legal right.

District 99 may approve sponsorship for those groups or organizations that indicate within their proposals that their activities will further the educational mission, belief statements, learner outcomes, and educational programs and services of District 99. Sponsorship will not be granted to groups demonstrating a propensity for material disruption to the atmosphere, work, and activities of the District or for substantial disorder, illegal acts, the violation of school rules or for the infringement of the rights of others. Sponsorship will not be granted to any group which includes in its purpose or practices any discrimination or harassment prohibited by Board of Education policies or applicable law.

The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent or designee to establish appropriate procedures and supplemental criteria to implement this policy and to approve or deny school sponsorship to proposed student groups and organizations.

Student participation in school-sponsored co-curricular and extracurricular activities and athletics is contingent upon the following:

- The student must meet the academic criteria set forth in Board policy 6.190, *Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities.*
- A parent/guardian of the student must provide written permission for the student's participation, giving the District full waiver of responsibility of the risks involved.
- The student must agree to follow all conduct rules and coaches' instructions.

In addition, student participation in extracurricular athletic activities requires the following:

- The student must present a current certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, an advanced practice registered nurse, or a physician assistant. The ***Pre-Participation Physical Examination Form***, offered by the Illinois High School Associate and the Illinois Elementary School Associate, is the preferred certificate of physical fitness.

- The student and his or her parent/guardian must: (a) comply with the eligibility rules of, and complete any forms required by, any sponsoring association (such as the Illinois High School Association), and (b) complete all forms required by the District including, without limitation, signing an acknowledgement of receiving information about Board policy 7.305, *Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries.*

The Superintendent or designee (1) is authorized to impose additional requirements for a student to participate in extracurricular athletics or activities, provided the requirement(s) comply with Board policy 7.10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*, and (2) shall maintain the necessary records to ensure student compliance with this policy.

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