

## **DISTRICT-SPONSORED EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

The Board of Education believes that student activities sponsored by the school district are a vital part of the total educational program and should be used as a means of developing social interactions, as well as knowledge and skills. The Board further recognizes that not all of the district's goals and objectives can be met in formal classroom study. Therefore, the Board authorizes the use of the district's facilities, employees and funds to provide student extracurricular activities or groups.

The Board directs the district's superintendent or designee to administer the district's extracurricular activities and groups in keeping with this policy, and to create administrative procedures to further the district's goals.

### **Definitions**

All district-sponsored activities, groups and organizations meeting or occurring during noninstructional time will be referred to as extracurricular. However, extracurricular activities and groups will be further categorized as follows for legal purposes:

*Cocurricular Activity or Group:* A school-sponsored activity or group primarily involving students and occurring outside of academic class time, where

- < The subject matter of the activity or group is or will be taught in a regularly offered class;
- < The subject matter of the activity or group concerns the body of courses as a whole;
- < Participation in the group is a requirement for a course; or
- < Academic credit is granted for participation.

*Noncurricular Activity or Group:* School-sponsored activities or groups primarily involving students and meeting outside of academic class time, which are not cocurricular.

### **General**

All extracurricular activities must have a duly-appointed sponsor, advisor or coach who is a district employee. Before assuming the duties of a sponsor, advisor or coach, the district must have on file a recent background check of the employee. It shall be the duty of such individuals to attend all meetings, functions or practices of the various groups, to advise and supervise students, and to keep the building principal informed regarding activities. All district-sponsored extracurricular activities should be included on the school calendar.

All students participating in extracurricular activities or groups are subject to district supervision and discipline. Students must comply with all policies, eligibility requirements, rules and procedures established by the district or established by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), when applicable.

Unless participation is required for an academic course in which the student is enrolled, participation in all extracurricular activities or groups is voluntary.

Pursuant to state law and upon the adoption of a resolution by a majority of the entire Board, the district may designate extracurricular activities that the Board believes presents unusual physical hazards to students. The Board may then authorize the expenditure of school funds to purchase medical insurance covering students while engaged in the activity, if the purchase of insurance would constitute a financial hardship to the parent/guardian or student.

### **Exclusion from Activities or Groups**

Students may belong to and take part in all extracurricular activities or groups for which they are qualified, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry or disability.

Unless participation in a group or activity is required for a course in which the student is enrolled, participation is a privilege, not a right. Students may be excluded from these groups as a disciplinary action, as a consequence for poor performance in school, or otherwise as determined by district administration. A student and/or his or her parents/guardians are not entitled to a hearing solely because the student has been excluded from an extracurricular activity which is not required for a course in which the student is enrolled.

### ***School Closings***

*Whenever school is closed regardless of the reason, if in the judgment of the administration, in consultation with those involved in the activity, if it is determined prudently safe, school activities may be allowed to occur regardless of whether the activity is home or away. This policy pertains to all district activities.*

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<p><b><i>Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.</i></b></p>
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Tentatively Approved : 03/19/09

Adopted: May 21, 2009

Revised: February 24, 2011

Cross Refs: AC, Prohibition Against Illegal Discrimination and Harassment  
JFCF, Hazing and Bullying  
KG, Community Use of School Facilities

Legal Refs: § 162.063, RSMo.  
*Westside Community Bd. of Ed. v. Mergens*, 496 U.S. 226 (1990)  
The Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. §4701, 4702

East Carter County R-II School District, Ellsinore, Missouri

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