



Section: *Programs*

Title: *Participation in Extracurricular Activities by Home Education Students*

Adopted: *February 16, 2006*

Revised:

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Participation in Extracurricular Activities

Students, resident in the District, enrolled in a home education program shall be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities that are conducted by the District, including, for example, athletic activities, clubs, musical ensembles and theatrical productions.

Requests to Participate

Any home education student who would like to participate in any extracurricular activity offered by the District must submit a written request to the Superintendent thirty (30) days prior to commencement of activity and/or tryouts. All requests must be in the form of a letter and must be signed by the home education student's parents or guardians.

District's Determination

The Superintendent, in consultation with the building principal where the student would normally be in attendance, and any other interested District parties, including, for example, coaches and instructors, will determine within ten (10) days prior to commencement of activity and/or tryout whether the home education student may participate in a requested extracurricular activity. Any such determination shall be in accordance with this Policy.

Conditions Precedent to Participation

In order to participate in a District extracurricular activity, the home education student must satisfy all of the following conditions:

1. Academic Eligibility

The home education student's home education program must be and remain in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Pennsylvania Public School Code of 1949, as amended, including, without limitation, Section 1327.1. The home education student must, upon request by the District, promptly provide the District with evidence of the student's continuing academic progress, in a form acceptable to the District, which progress must be commensurate with the District's academic curriculum for students of similar age and ability.

2. Performance Criteria

The home education student must perform and satisfy any and all try-out, performance, or other criteria required of all District students who wish to participate in the desired program.

3. Health and Wellness

The home education student must be free from illness or other injury which would endanger the health or safety of other persons involved in the activity. In the event the home education student wishes to participate in a District sponsored athletic activity, the home education student must satisfy all physical prerequisites imposed on District students, including providing proof of medical insurance and submitting to a physical examination or medical test, if necessary.

In the event the extracurricular activity requires a physical examination or medical test as a condition of participation and the District offers such examination or test to students enrolled in the District's regular academic curriculum, the District shall permit a home education student access to such examination or test. In the event the District offers a physical examination or medical test in conjunction with an extracurricular activity, the District shall publish the dates and times of such examinations or tests in a publication of general circulation in the District and on the District's website.

4. Required Forms

The home education student must satisfactorily complete any and all forms reasonably requested by the District, including, for example, waivers, releases and/or permission slips prior to commencement of activity/tryout.

Factors Considered to Determine Participation

In the event the home education student has satisfied the applicable prerequisites listed above, the Superintendent, in consultation with the building principal where the student would normally be in attendance, and any other interested District parties, may consider several other factors in order to determine whether the home education student may participate in a requested extracurricular activity. These factors include, for example, the following:

- 1. Current enrollment in the desired activity;*
- 2. Available tests and/or materials;*
- 3. Activity prerequisites (i.e., placement exams, prior academic courses, health and safety training, etc.);*
- 4. Time of year or state of activity;*
- 5. Length of program;*
- 6. Responsibilities assumed by the District, sponsor and/or coach; and*
- 7. Impact on the total program.*

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the factors listed above may only be considered if, and to the extent that, they would be considered by the Superintendent in the event a student enrolled in the District's regular academic curriculum made a request to participate in the same activity under the same circumstances.

Transportation

Transportation to and from the District's facilities and any arrival and departure locations is the sole responsibility of the home education student, the student's parents or guardians for all activities.

Behavior and Discipline

Any home education student participating in an extracurricular activity, and such student's parents or guardians, must comply with all District disciplinary policies and all other relevant policies then in effect.

Costs and Expenses

Any home education student participating in an extracurricular activity, or such student's parents or guardians, must pay all costs and expenses associated with such activity that are paid by other participants. For example, in the event the activity participants who are enrolled in the District's regular academic curriculum are required to purchase uniforms, equipment and/or instruments, a home education student participating in the same activity must also purchase the same uniforms, equipment and/or instruments.

Right to Terminate Participation Privileges

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. As such, the District may terminate any home education student's privilege to participate in any such activities for any reason or no reason, with or without notice, at any time. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District acknowledges the commitment most students will make to activities in which they participate, and further acknowledges that participation by a wide array of student in the District activities benefits the District, the individual participants and the activity. Therefore, prior to terminating a home education student's privilege to participate in a District activity, all interested parties, including, for example, the District, the coach or instructor, the home education student, and such student's parents or guardians shall endeavor in good faith to resolve any outstanding issues and develop a way in which to continue the home education student's participation in the District's programs.

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