

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: EXTRACURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES

ADOPTED: June 21, 2007

REVISED: October 23, 2012

EASTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

122. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Board believes that the district's goals and objectives are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular curricular program of the schools.</p> <p>All learning experiences offered by the schools, curricular and extracurricular, shall be planned and integrated toward attainment of the district's educational objectives.</p>
<p>2. Definition Title 22 Sec. 12.1 Pol. 123</p>	<p>For purposes of this policy, extracurricular activities shall be those programs that are sponsored or approved by the Board and are conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day; are marked by student participation in the processes of initiation, planning, organizing, and execution; and are equally available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate. For those extracurricular activities that meet the definition of "Interscholastic Athletics" under Board Policy 123, the requirements of that Policy shall also apply.</p>
<p>3. Authority SC 511 20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq Pol. 103</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Any extracurricular activity shall be considered under the sponsorship of this Board when it has been formally approved as an extracurricular activity by the Board upon recommendation of the Superintendent.</p> <p>The Board shall maintain the program of extracurricular activities at no cost to participating students, except that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students may be responsible for the following costs: Uniforms, shoes, personal equipment, and other gear. Students shall also be responsible for any necessary physical exams, re-certification physical exams, or other medical documentation necessary for participation in an activity/sport. 2. The Board's responsibility for provision of supplies shall carry the same exemptions as listed in the Board's policy on regular school supplies.
<p>Pol. 110</p>	

<p>Pol. 218</p> <p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>5. Guidelines</p> <p>20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq</p>	<p>3. Where eligibility requirements are necessary or desirable, the Board shall be informed of and must approve the establishment of eligibility standards before they are operable and may require modification of such standards.</p> <p><u>Off-Campus Activities</u></p> <p>This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would violate the Code of Student Conduct if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities. 2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities. 3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school. 4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct. 5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property. <p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop and disseminate procedures to implement the extracurricular activities program.</p> <p>Guidelines shall ensure that the program of extracurricular activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assesses the needs and interests of and is responsive to district students. 2. Invites the participation of parents/guardians and community in developing extracurricular activities. Such participation shall be in accordance with the Equal Access Act. 3. Involves students in developing and planning extracurricular activities. 4. Ensures provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff. 5. Guards against exploitation of students.
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<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.1, 12.4</p>	<p>6. Provides a variety of experiences and diversity of organizational models.</p> <p>7. Provides for continuing evaluation of the program and its components.</p> <p>8. Ensures that all extracurricular activities are open to all students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.</p>
<p>Pol. 123, 204</p>	<p><u>Attendance And Participation</u></p> <p>Any full day absence from school or classes will automatically disqualify a participant from participation in extracurricular activities for that day. Any illegal or unexcused tardiness or early dismissal will be treated in the same manner. Should the student arrive late to school or leave early from school, that student must have a written note from the parent/guardian as to the reason, and the grade level principal must grant permission to participate in extra-curricular activities for that day. In any event, the student-athlete must be in school for the majority of the school day. In addition, illegal and/or unexcused absences, tardiness and/or early dismissal from school or classes before or after scheduled athletic events will also disqualify participants from the next event. The Superintendent or designee may grant exceptions to these attendance requirements where the student is a student with a disability and the absence is related to the student's disability under the IDEA, the ADA and/or Section 504 or in other extenuating circumstances; however, for students participating in interscholastic athletics, such exceptions must be consistent with the P.I.A.A. attendance requirements and Board Policy 123.</p>
<p>Pol. 123</p>	<p><u>Academics And Participation</u></p> <p>A student shall not be permitted to attend a school-sponsored extracurricular activity at any time when the student has one or more failing grades. Current grades shall be determined through a review of the student's electronic academic record, as maintained by the school, and/or through a discussion with the student's teacher(s). Written confirmation provided by a building principal or homeschool instructor providing assurance of passing grades shall also be accepted. The academic requirements set forth in Board Policy 123 (Interscholastic Athletics) shall govern all students participating in interscholastic athletics.</p>
<p>Pol. 227</p>	<p><u>Suspension From Extracurricular Activities</u></p> <p>Any student in the district reported of violating the Board policy on drug and alcohol abuse will be required to participate in a hearing to determine privilege eligibility in extracurricular and interscholastic athletics. The building principal shall serve as the hearing officer with appropriate representation from central administration followed by a report to the Board.</p>

<p>20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq</p>	<p>This suspension will involve participation in any activity sponsored by the district including clubs, trips by organizations that do not impact upon a grade that appears on a report card, class office, Student Council, etc.</p> <p><u>Release Form</u></p> <p>Participation by any student in extracurricular activities shall be conditioned upon the execution by that student and his/her parent/guardian of a release form prepared by the district, which shall be circulated to all students in the activity prior to participation.</p> <p><u>Travel And Meals For Student Groups</u></p> <p>The district acknowledges and supports the involvement of students in approved activities and functions as an outgrowth of the instructional program. Such approved activities include competitions and meetings, excluding field trips, which necessitate travel beyond the district.</p> <p>The district wants to assure participation by eligible students in such approved events and will avoid any practice which discriminates against student participation. Therefore, the district will pay for reasonable and necessary student expenses associated with transportation, lodging, and meals. However, this policy does not preclude the efforts of clubs and support groups from providing funds for student expenses when they desire to do so.</p> <p>Within this policy, an approved event shall be defined as any student function outside the district which is scheduled and approved by the administration.</p> <p><u>Equal Access Act</u></p> <p>The district shall provide secondary students the opportunity for noncurriculum related student groups to meet on the school premises during noninstructional time for the purpose of conducting a meeting within the limited open forum on the basis of religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. Such groups shall not be considered extracurricular activities under this Policy, but shall be subject to the following provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Such meetings must be voluntary, student-initiated, and not sponsored in any way by the school, its agents or employees. Noninstructional time is the time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends.• The meetings cannot materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the educational activities in the school.
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- The Superintendent or designee may establish the length of sessions, number per week, and other limitations deemed reasonably necessary.

The district retains the authority during all such meetings to maintain order and discipline on school premises in order to protect the well-being of students and employees and to ensure that student attendance at such meetings is voluntary.

The district's Code of Conduct shall apply to all such groups.

Participation By Charter School, Cyber-Charter School And Homeschooled Students

Charter school, cyber-charter school and homeschooled students shall be given an equal opportunity to compete for positions and to participate in the district's extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics provided that all of the following conditions are met:

1. The student is a resident of the district and is otherwise eligible for enrollment within the district.
2. The charter or cyber-charter school in which the school student is enrolled does not provide the same extracurricular activity or interscholastic athletics. (Not applicable for homeschooled students.)
3. The student meets all of the eligibility criteria or their equivalent for participation in the activity that apply to students enrolled in the district, including, without limitation, those set forth in or promulgated pursuant to Board policy and the district's Code of Conduct. These criteria include, without limitation, verification of requisite academic achievement, fulfillment of attendance requirements, and any applicable physical fitness, height or weight restrictions.
4. The student meets the tryout criteria, if any, or their equivalent for participation in the activity that apply to students enrolled in the district.
5. The student meets all policies, rules and regulations, or their equivalent, of any governing organization of the activity (e.g., Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, Eastern Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletics League, etc.).
6. The student complies with all applicable school district policies and any team rules or regulations required by the activity sponsor, or their equivalent, that apply to students enrolled in the district while participating in that activity (e.g., attendance at practices, prohibition of possession or use of tobacco or alcohol, etc.).

7. The student has completed any/all necessary medical examinations or medical tests required of students enrolled in the district as a condition of participation in the activity.

An eligible student will be given the opportunity to participate only in the extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics available to the students at the school building to which the student would be assigned if s/he were enrolled in the district. The Director of Athletics shall develop administrative regulations governing the participation of charter, cyber-charter and homeschooled students in extracurricular activities. Such regulations shall include procedures by which such students shall be required to demonstrate proof that a student is eligible for participation and has met the requirements set forth in this Policy.

The district shall request records from a charter or cyber-charter school to verify eligibility. Such records may include attendance records, grades/transcripts, and/or other records that may be necessary to determine eligibility for participation. Refusal by parents to permit the charter or cyber-charter school to release such records and/or failure of the charter or cyber-charter school to release the records necessary to demonstrate eligibility shall result non-participation by the student until the requisite records are obtained.

The district shall not be responsible for providing transportation for charter, cyber-charter or homeschooled students to or from the district's schools for participation in extracurricular activities. Such transportation shall be the responsibility of the student and/or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s). When the district provides transportation to and from a contest, game, exhibition or event at another school and requires students to use the transportation provided by the school district, charter, cyber-charter and homeschooled students likewise shall be required to use such transportation. Such transportation shall be limited to transportation to and from the event from a designated district building.

The Superintendent or designee shall determine the actual participation costs to the district of each charter or cyber-charter school student, and the district shall bill the charter school or cyber-charter school in that amount. This amount shall be based on actual costs to the district of the participation of each student in the extracurricular activity in question, the calculation of which shall be based upon the previous year's actual costs. The district may not financially profit from this billing procedure. The calculation of these costs shall include expenses of each activity, including coach or director, uniforms, transportation and miscellaneous costs. Where a charter or cyber-charter school has not provided such reimbursement within 30 days of receipt of such bill, the district may, upon notice to the charter or cyber-charter school, prohibit the student's participation until all overdue payments are made.

<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323, 5333</p> <p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323, 5333</p> <p>24 P.S. Sec. 5322</p>	<p><u>Concussions And Sudden Cardiac Arrest</u></p> <p>The following rules regarding concussions and sudden cardiac arrest shall apply to all interscholastic athletics, all school-sponsored athletic sports, events, competitions sponsored by or associated with the district, including cheerleading (competitive and non-competitive), club-sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations.</p> <p>All students wishing to participate in such activities shall be required to sign and return to the Director of Athletics an acknowledgement of receipt and review of the “Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury” and the “Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs” information sheets prior to participation in any such activity/program. Such forms are available at the Athletics office. Students who do not submit such forms with their and their parent(s)/guardian(s)’s signatures may not participate until such time as the form is completed and returned to the Athletics office.</p> <p>If a student is known to have exhibited signs or symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest at any time prior to or following an athletic activity, the student shall be prevented from participating in such activity or any other activity until the student has been satisfactorily been cleared for “Return-to-Play,” as set forth, below.</p> <p>A student who, as determined by a game official, coach from the student’s team, certified athletic trainer, licensed physician, licensed physical therapist or other official designated by the Superintendent or designee exhibits signs or symptoms of a concussion or traumatic brain injury or sudden cardiac arrest while participating in an athletic activity shall be removed by the coach from participation at that time.</p> <p><u>Return-to-Play</u></p> <p><i>Students Removed from Play for Concussion Signs/Symptoms –</i></p> <p>The coach shall not return a student to participation until the student is evaluated and cleared in writing for return to participation by an appropriate medical professional. It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent or designee to ensure that the medical professional providing such written clearance meets the requirements of the Pennsylvania Safety in Youth Sports Act. The Superintendent or designee may designate specific individuals to serve as “appropriate medical professionals” under this Policy and shall ensure that such individuals meet the requirements set forth in the law.</p>
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<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5331 et seq</p>	<p><i>Students Removed from Play for Sudden Cardiac Arrest Signs/Symptoms –</i></p> <p>The coach shall not return a student to participation until the student is evaluated and cleared in writing for return to participation in writing by a licensed physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or cardiologist. It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent or designee to ensure that the medical professional providing such written clearance meets the requirements of the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act.</p>
<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p><u>Training</u></p> <p>Once each school year, all coaches, as a prerequisite to coaching an athletic activity under this Policy, shall, as required by law, complete the concussion management certification training course and the sudden cardiac arrest training course offered by a provider approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Such training must be completed prior to the performance of any coaching activity, including pre-season activities. The Director of Athletics shall develop administrative regulations setting forth timelines and requirements for the completion of this training.</p>
<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p><u>Penalties</u></p> <p>Failure of a coach to adhere to the return-to-play rules and/or the certification training requirements, set forth, above, shall result in a suspension from coaching privileges and responsibilities, which includes, as a minimum, suspension from coaching for the season and which may include a permanent suspension from coaching. The district reserves the right to take additional disciplinary action, as recommended by the Superintendent, where appropriate and/or necessary, up to and including termination of employment.</p>
	<p><u>Section 504 / Chapter 15</u></p> <p>Students with qualifying disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or 22 Pa Code Chapter 15 shall be entitled to applicable protections and appropriate accommodations, if necessary, under those laws.</p>

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References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 511

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.1, 12.4, 15.1 et seq.

Safety In Youth Sports Act – 24 P.S. Sec. 5321 et seq.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act – 24 P.S. Sec. 5331 et seq.

Equal Access Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 – 29 U.S.C. 794, et seq.,
34 CFR 104.1, et seq.

Board Policy – 110, 123, 140, 204, 218, 227