

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education believes that student activities at school are a vital part of the total educational program and should be used as a means for developing wholesome attitudes and good human relations, as well as knowledge and skills. The Board believes that school citizenship, as reflected in student activities, is a measure of the achievement of important school goals. The Board recognizes that the greatest values to be derived from both curricular and extracurricular student school activities occur when such activities are developed and encouraged through participation among, or the knowledge of, the student body, interested members in the community, and school staff.

The Board further believes that any program of student activities should:

- A. Require all student participation to be on a voluntary basis;
- B. Require that student activity funds should be used for purposes which benefit the student body of the school;
- C. Require that the management of student activity funds be the responsibility of the Treasurer with assistance from school system administration; and
- D. Permit the formation of student clubs, and other student groups organized to promote or pursue specialized athletic, social service, and social activities.

Pursuant to O.R.C. §3301.60, the district shall facilitate the opportunity for students who are children of military families who have transferred from another state (the “sending state”) to be included in extracurricular activities, regardless of application deadlines, to the extent they are otherwise qualified.

District-Sponsored Activities

Each year the Board shall sponsor extracurricular activities recommended by the Superintendent. It will provide facilities and equipment, when and as appropriate, and arrange for faculty advisors to supervise the planning and conduct of the activities.

The Superintendent shall ensure that the planning, conduct, and evaluation of all extracurricular activities are in compliance with equal opportunity law, Board policies, and district guidelines.

Students are to be informed of all extracurricular activities and the requirements for participation. Provisions may be made to accommodate those students who may not have the ability to pay necessary fees.

Professional staff members may be employed as advisors by means of a supplemental contract based on the recommendation of the Superintendent and subject to the approval of the Board.

District-Sanctioned Activities

In addition to extracurricular activities it sponsors, the Board may, from time to time, choose to permit certain activities which are not part of the regular extracurricular program of the district but which can benefit those students who wish to participate. Although permitting an activity, the Board:

- A. Will not assume any responsibility for its planning, conduct, or evaluation;
- B. Will not provide any funds or other resources;

The Board may make facilities available in accordance with its policy governing the use of school facilities.

No organization may use the name of the district or any other name which would associate the activity with the district without the consent of the Board. Requests for such consent must be submitted to the Superintendent and receive his/her recommendation prior to consideration by the Board.

Loss of Instructional Time

Approved student activities that require the loss of instructional time shall be kept to a minimum. School district personnel shall not schedule activities at times that interfere with classroom instruction unless it is reasonably necessary. The Superintendent or designee may approve such activities if in his/her judgment:

- A. The benefits of the activity cannot be obtained within the scheduled instructional program.
- B. The activity contributes to the development of important skills or interests of the students involved.
- C. The total length of time does not impair the curricular achievement of the students involved.
- D. The students are given the opportunity and the responsibility for making up work.
- E. The experiences cannot be obtained outside of regular school hours.

The Superintendent or designee shall review and may approve requests for student participation in activities scheduled during the school day by organizations and agencies other than those of the Board of Education. Consideration shall be given to the activity as it relates to the learning experiences for students.

“Extracurricular Activity” Defined

Pursuant to O.R.C. §3313.537, an “extracurricular activity” is a pupil activity program that a school or the district operates which is not included as a graded course of study, including an interscholastic extracurricular activity that a school or the district sponsors or participates in and that has participants from more than one school or school district.

Participation of Nonpublic Community and STEM School Students

If a student who is enrolled in a chartered or nonchartered nonpublic school, is enrolled in a community school established under Chapter 3314 of the Ohio Revised Code, or is enrolled in a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (“STEM”) school established under Chapter 3326 of the Ohio Revised Code, would otherwise be entitled to attend school in the District pursuant to O.R.C. §§3313.64 or 3313.65, the Superintendent shall afford such student the opportunity to participate in those extracurricular activities that the student’s chartered or nonchartered nonpublic school does not offer. The opportunity to participate shall be offered at the District school to which the student would otherwise be assigned by the Superintendent under O.R.C. §3319.01 during the school year.

The Superintendent may afford any student enrolled in a chartered or nonchartered nonpublic school, a community school, or a STEM school, who is not entitled to attend school in the District under O.R.C. §§3313.64 or 3313.65, the opportunity to participate in an extracurricular activity offered by the District, if the nonpublic school in which the student is enrolled does not offer the extracurricular activity and either of the following apply:

- (1) The extracurricular activity is not interscholastic athletics or interscholastic contests or competition in music, drama, or forensics.
- (2) The extracurricular activity is in an interscholastic athletic or interscholastic contest or competition in music, drama, or forensics. In order to participate, the student shall seek to participate at either the school district in which the student’s nonpublic school is located or the school district in which the student is entitled to attend school under O.R.C. §3313.64 or §3313.65, so long as the chosen district offers the extracurricular activity.

If the student seeks to participate at the school district in which the student’s nonpublic school is located, both of the following shall apply.

- (a) The superintendent of the school district in which the student is entitled to attend school must certify that the student has not participated in any extracurricular activity that is in an interscholastic athletic or interscholastic contest or competition in music, drama, or forensics at that school district during that school year. If the student has participated in such an extracurricular activity at that school district during the school year, the student shall be ineligible to participate in the extracurricular activity at the school district in which the student’s nonpublic school is located for that school year.
- (b) The superintendent of the school district in which the student is entitled to attend school and the superintendent of the school district in which the student is seeking to participate must mutually agree, in writing, to allow the student to participate in the extracurricular activity at the school district in which the student’s nonpublic school is located.

Chartered or nonchartered nonpublic school students, community school students, and STEM school students afforded the opportunity to participate in any of the District’s extracurricular activities must be of the appropriate age and grade level, as determined by the Superintendent, for the school that offers the extracurricular activity. Such students must fulfill the same academic, nonacademic, and financial requirements as any other participant in the District’s extracurricular activities.

No student who is enrolled in the District shall be denied the opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics offered solely because the student is participating or has participated in the college credit plus program under Chapter 3365 of the Ohio Revised Code, so long as the student fulfills all other academic, nonacademic, and financial requirements that are not related to participation in the program.

Additionally, no student who is enrolled in a community school, STEM school, or nonpublic school or who is receiving home instruction shall be denied the opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics at the District school in which the student is entitled to attend school under O.R.C. §3313.64 or §3313.65 solely because of participation in the college credit plus program, so long as the student meets the applicable requirements under O.R.C. §3313.537, §3313.5311, or §3313.5312 and fulfills all other academic, nonacademic, and financial requirements that are not related to participation in the program.

Foreign Student Participation in Interscholastic Athletics

Any student from a country or province outside the United States, who attends school in the District, shall be permitted to participate in interscholastic athletics at that school on the same basis as students who are residents of Ohio, so long as the student holds an F-1 visa issued by the U.S. Department of State. Such a student shall not be denied the opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics solely because the student’s parents do not reside in this state

Transfer Students

The same rules for participation in interscholastic athletics shall apply to students transferring into the District, regardless of the whether the student is transferring from a public or non-public school.

LEGAL REFS.: O.R.C. §§3301.60; 3313.53; 3313.5311; 3313.5314; 3313.5316; 3313.537

Adopted: November 18, 2019