

# WALLINGFORD- SWARTHMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: EXTRACURRICULAR  
ACTIVITIES

ADOPTED: January 22, 2001

REVISED: May 9, 2016

<p>1. Purpose Title 22 Sec. 12.1, 12.4 Pol. 123</p> <p>2. Definitions Title 22 Sec. 12.1</p> <p>24 P.S. Sec. 5322, 5332</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">122. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES</p> <p>The Board recognizes the value of a comprehensive program of extracurricular activities with an appropriate balance of athletic and nonathletic pursuits in the total developmental process of a student. These activities are an important and integral part of the total school program and are open to participation by all students. The athletic and nonathletic activities which are provided by the school district are designed to assist with the physical, social, emotional, and moral development of the students. To ensure proper development of these four (4) aspects, activities shall be grade level and physically appropriate. Middle school students shall be restricted to the middle school extracurricular and athletic programs.</p> <p>The activities, whether competitive or noncompetitive, are also intended to provide for the development of a wholesome, cooperative spirit and a sense of pride and confidence through accomplishment. However, at no time are these activities to interfere with the primary educational function of the school district or assume stature that is out of line with the objectives of the extracurricular program.</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.</p> <p>For purposes of this policy, an athletic activity shall mean all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with the school, including cheerleading, club-sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations.</li> <li>2. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the school.</li> <li>3. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities.</li> </ol>
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<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 student. Such availability and assignment shall be in accordance with the Equal Access Act.</p> <p>The Board encourages secondary level students to pursue clubs and interests that may not be related directly to any of the curriculum programs offered in the district. In pursuit of such goal and in compliance with law, the Board maintains a limited open forum in which secondary students may meet for voluntary student-initiated activities unrelated directly to the curriculum, regardless of the religious, political, philosophical or other content of the speech related to such activities.</p> <p>The Board will approve a total amount of funds in the budget for extracurricular activities each year.</p>
<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>The Superintendent will designate specific percentages of these funds for each school. The principal, using information gathered from teachers, students, and parents/guardians shall determine the specific extracurricular activities to be offered in his/her school, subject to an annual review by the Board during the budget planning process.</p>
<p>5. Guidelines</p>	<p>Extracurricular activities which do not receive full funding in the district budget may be approved as district club activities by the Board in its discretion. Club activities, including club sports, reflect the reality that not all extracurricular activities desired by students or parents/guardians may be able to be funded through the district budget. Approval of a club activity or sport does not indicate an intention on the part of the district or Board to provide full funding or varsity status for the club at any future point. Except where specifically noted, club activities shall observe all district policies and procedures related to extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics which are fully funded by the district.</p> <p>Participation in the extracurricular program where students represent the school is a privilege, and student conduct must be beyond reproach. A single act of egregious behavior or persistent disregard for the rules of the school shall be cause for the principal to refuse to have a student represent the school or the district.</p>

<p>Pol. 218</p>	<p><u>Off-Campus Activities</u></p> <p>This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would otherwise violate the Code of Student Conduct if any of the following circumstances exist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from school or traveling to and from school-sponsored activities, whether or not via school district furnished transportation.</li><li>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.</li><li>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.</li><li>4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, for example, a transaction conducted outside of school pursuant to an agreement made in school, that would violate the Code of Student Conduct if conducted in school.</li><li>5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.</li><li>6. There is otherwise a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.</li></ol> <p>For additional information and for the procedures to be followed when violations occur, see the <i>Guidelines for Suspension/Dismissal from Extracurricular Activities</i> found in the middle school and high school student handbook.</p> <p><u>Student Participation</u></p> <p>With the goal of developing ever increasing ownership for these programs by those who benefit most directly, a reasonable student activities fee may be established and collected. This fee will be paid as a prerequisite for involvement in extracurricular activities in grades 6-12. Provisions will be made for exemption from paying either a part or all of the fee by any student whose economic situation would otherwise preclude his/her involvement. In the event that a student quits or is removed from an extracurricular activity, the student may forfeit any fees or expenses incurred in the course of that activity. The District will not be responsible for any such fees or expenses.</p>
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<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323, 5333 Pol. 123.1, 123.2</p> <p>20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq</p>	<p>Through voluntary participation, the student gives time, energy, and loyalty to the program. The student also accepts the training rules, regulations, and responsibilities which are unique to an extracurricular activities program.</p> <p>The administrative procedures related to the implementation of this policy shall not supersede the Board policies relating to students' rights and responsibilities but will be used by sponsors and coaches to ensure that all students involved in activities are treated uniformly and fairly.</p> <p>Each school year, prior to participation in an athletic activity, every student athlete and his/her parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet.</li><li>2. Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Information Sheet.</li></ol> <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.</p> <p>Such meetings must be voluntary, student-initiated, and not sponsored in any way by the school, its agents or employees.</p> <p>Noninstructional time is the time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins, after actual classroom instruction ends or during the lunch period.</p> <p>The meetings cannot materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the educational activities in the school.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall establish the length of sessions, number per week, and other limitations deemed reasonably necessary.</p> <p>The district retains the authority to maintain order and discipline on school premises to protect the well-being of students and employees and to ensure that student attendance at such meetings is voluntary.</p>
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References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 511

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

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

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

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

Board Policy – 103, , 110, 123, 123.1, 123.2, 218, 618