Raymond School District Policy - JJA

STUDENT ACTIVITIES & ORGANIZATIONS

It is the policy of the Board to allow opportunities for all students residing in the District to participate in co/extra-curricular activities and programs designed to meet their needs and interests. Co/extra-curricular activities include, but are not necessarily limited to field trips, excursions, athletics (including intramurals), band, chorus, clubs, organizations, school dances, and others.

Such activities and programs are intended to supplement and enrich regular academic instruction, provide opportunities for social development, encourage participation in clubs, athletics, performing groups, or encourage service to the school and community.

Any student organization or school/District sanctioned team, club, or activity must be recommended by the building Principal and, if it has a budgetary impact, must be approved by the Board.

A. Eligibility.

To participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, all students must meet eligibility requirements, and understand that such participation is a privilege, not a right. The Superintendent is directed to establish eligibility standards and procedures for acceptable academic performance, good citizenship/sportsmanship, parental permission, fees, and physical exams/health requirements. The eligibility standards and procedures will be published in the student/parent handbooks. **The building Principal, or his/her designee(s), will verify that all students meet eligibility standards and procedures prior to the students' participation in the activity.** Any person so designated by the Principal must be trained on the requirements of Board policy JJJ.

In addition, participation in interscholastic sports or other school activities affiliated with outside organizations (e.g., the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association, or the New Hampshire Music Educators Association, etc.) is subject to the rules and eligibility requirements of those organizations. Additional Board policies, administrative regulations, or activity rules may apply to specific programs, clubs, and activities. See, e.g., Board policy JJIB, regarding interscholastic athletics.

In the event that a program has reached capacity, determinations must be made in the same manner as described in Section A of Board policy JJJ.

B. Participation by Home Education and Other Non-Enrolled District Students.

Participation in student activities and organizations must have the same eligibility and participation requirements for both district students and for home educated, charter school, or non-enrolled district school resident students ("non-enrolled district students"). See Board policy JJJ for information on participation by such students.

C. Appeals.

Any student/parent who believes that the district's policies/regulations or the State's laws/regulations have not been appropriately or fairly interpreted regarding eligibility or participation in a school a course or program may appeal in the same manner as provided in Section E of Board policy JJJ.

D. Administrative Regulations or Procedures.

The Superintendent or designee may adopt such administrative regulations or procedures as s/he deems appropriate in order to implement this policy. Such regulations or procedures must also comply with Board policy JJJ.

It is the policy of the Board to allow opportunities for all students to participate in co-curricular activities designed to meet their needs and interests.

Such activities must supplement and enrich regular academic instruction, provide opportunities for social development, encourage participation in clubs, athletics and performing groups, or encourage service to the school and community. These co-curricular activities support students in making choices and developing skills.

Any student organization must be approved by the Principal. An important goal is to provide students with a well-rounded, supported education.

In this policy, the term "co curricular activities" means any student organization or activity that is supervised by contracted personnel and is independent of credit courses, including, but not limited to, Student Council, Peer Outreach, Student Leadership, Drama, Interact, Art, Math, Class Officers, and Honor Societies. (Note: Participating in Band and Choral required performances are considered part of the course and not co-curricular activity.) Festival trips and competitions with a financial component are not part of coursework. Co curricular activities in this policy do not include sporting activities.

Eligibility

To participate in co-curricular activities, all students must meet eligibility requirements and understand that such participation is a privilege, not a right. The Superintendent is directed to establish eligibility standards and procedures for acceptable academic performance, good citizenship, responsibility and appropriate behavior. The eligibility standards and procedures for participation in co-curricular activities will be published in the student/parent handbooks. The student shall be subject to the standards stated in JJA-R, Co-Curricular Participation.

Participation

Students who participate in co-curricular activities will be required to adhere to high standards and expectations because a student who represents their school through clubs and organizations, student government, or the arts has a responsibility to uphold the integrity of the school.

The district allows students enrolled in other schools – including charter schools, non-public schools, and home schools – to participate on an equal basis in any activity offered by the district that is not offered at a student's school of attendance, provided they meet the eligibility requirements for participation and the requirements of Raymond School District Policy IHBG-R, Home Education/Dual Enrollment. This applies to:

- 1. Students who are residents of this school district but who are being educated in a home school may participate provided they comply with all laws governing non-public home based education.
- 2. Students who are residents of the district who are being educated in an independent or parochial school if the school in which the student is enrolled does not sponsor the activity.

The Superintendent is directed to establish procedures for application of students enrolled in other schools and an appeal process to implement this participation allowance.

Participation Fees

Non-enrolled students participating in district co-curricular activities are subject to the same fees charged to enrolled students for the activity.

Legal References

RSA 193 A:6 Home Education Records, Evaluation
RSA 193:1-c, Access to Public School Programs by Nonpublic or Home Educated Pupils
NH Code of Admin Rules, Sect. Ed 306.27 (b)(5) High School Cocurricular Program
NH Code of Admin Rules, Sect. Ed 306.27 (v) Reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities

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