

**ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES****Pennsville High School**

While the Board encourages and sponsors a comprehensive program of extra-curricular activities, it is acutely aware that the expenditure of excessive time and effort in these activities may interfere with the efforts and the ability of some students to devote sufficient time and effort to their academic studies to achieve success. The achievement of satisfactory levels of proficiency in students' academic studies is and must be the primary goal of the Pennsville High School, and should be a primary goal of all students in attending school.

For purposes of this Regulation, "extracurricular activities" refers to those activities that are sponsored or approved by the Board, but are not offered for credit toward graduation. Such activities shall generally be conducted outside the regular school day, available to pupils who voluntarily elect to participate, marked by pupil participation in the processes of initiation, planning, organizing and execution and shall ordinarily include band, clubs, dramatic or musical presentations, and intramural and interscholastic sports.

To minimize student failure to learn and achieve because of competing time requirements, the Board has adopted the following standards of academic eligibility to participate in extra-curricular activities:

1. Maintain a "C" Average; a cumulative grade point average of 78% or above; and
2. Earns at least 30 academic credits in the preceding year.

All grades will be rounded to the nearest whole number and a student's grades will be evaluated on the basis of the four marking periods of an academic year. However, for students who attend summer school, summer school grades may be used in determining fall eligibility. Incomplete grades will be considered "Fs" until resolved.

As noted above, a student must earn at least 30 credits, or its equivalent, at the end of the semester and at the end of the school year. Failure to do so will result in ineligibility for one full semester. A student that did not earn 30 credits at the end of the school year is ineligible for the next semester, regardless of GPA. After the first semester projected earned credits will be reviewed for eligibility. Students must earn the equivalent of 15 credits at the end of the first semester to remain eligible.

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REGULATION: 6145R

The NJSIAA also recognizes a student's ability to accelerate their academic program during the first three years of schooling, therefore the following clause will be utilized to determine eligibility of Seniors in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. (E.4.CL3 pg. 33 of NJSIAA Handbook):

*It is recognized that students may accelerate their academic programs during their first three years of secondary schooling. Consequently, such students may be eligible in the second semester of their senior year even when they carry less than 12½ % of the State minimum (15) credits during the first semester provided they are meeting their school district's graduation requirements and are passing all courses in which they are enrolled at the start of the first semester. Seniors who withdraw from courses with a passing grade (wp) will be eligible provided they are carrying sufficient credits for graduation purposes.*

Eligibility will be re-evaluated on a marking period by marking period basis.

### Transfer Students

Transfer students will become eligible to participate in extracurricular activities upon receipt and evaluation of previous school records.

### Ineligibility

For the purpose of athletic/academic/performing teams or groups, if a student becomes ineligible during the course of a team season, the student will NOT be permitted to finish the season in which they became ineligible. The only exception to this rule of immediate ineligibility is if the student attends a controlled "Study Pit" before the beginning of school from 7:00A.M. to 7:30A.M. on Tuesdays through Fridays of each school week.

- A student's failure to meet this requirement, including, but not limited to, the SECOND ABSENCE from the "Study Pit" will result in the student becoming ineligible IMMEDIATELY. LATE is considered absent in this program. There are NO excused absences, unless a student is not in school for the entire day and does not participate in a co-/extra-curricular activity on that day.
- Only students with a grade point average of 70% and no more than one "F" may attend the "Study Pit" to maintain participation eligibility.

Students presently participating in extracurricular activities and their parents will be notified of their ineligibility, via a ConnectEd call and email, by the Building Principal or his/her designee. Copies of all eligibility letters which are sent via email will be available for pick up at the main office upon request.

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Notification

Student notification of this policy and its implications will be provided as follows:

- a. A copy of the policy will appear in all student handbooks.
- b. All coaches and extracurricular advisors will remind students under their charge of the policy and its implications.
- c. The Principal or his/her designee will announce the policy and its implications to all students at the beginning of every school year.

**Pennsville Middle School**

Any student in the Pennsville Middle School who meets the following academic standards will be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities:

1. Maintains a "C" average, a cumulative grade point average of 78% or above; and
2. Earns no more than one "F," which is a grade of 69% or below, per marking period. Incomplete grades will be considered "Fs" until resolved.

Eligibility will be reevaluated each marking period.

Date: January 22, 2013

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**REGULATION: 6145R**

Legal References:

N.J.S.A. 10:5-1 et seq.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3

N.J.S.A. 18A:19-14

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-20

N.J.S.A. 18A:42-5, -6

N.J.S.A. 34:13A-1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.2

N.J.A.C. 6A:9-5.19

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2

N.J.A.C. 6A:30-1.1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-9.1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-14.1

20 U.S.C.A. 4071-4074

20 U.S.C.A. 1681 et seq.

Law Against Discrimination

Voluntary associations regulating  
conduct of students

Funds derived from pupil activities

Participation in courses in which verbalization  
is unessential to understanding of subject  
matter; location of and children in bilingual  
programs

Certain student organizations declared  
harmful

New Jersey Employer-Employee Relations  
Act

Managing for Equality and Equity in  
Education

Career education and counseling

Athletics personnel

Required health services

Evaluation of the Performance of School  
Districts

Athletics Procedures

Review of mandated programs and services

Equal Access Act

Title IX of the Education Amendments of  
1972

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EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (cont.)**

**REGULATION: 6145R**

Krupp v. Bd. of Ed. of Union County Reg. H.S. Dist. #1, 278 N.J. Super.  
31(App. Div. 1994) cert. den. 140 N.J. 277 (1994)

Good News Club v. Milford Central School, 121 U.S. 2093 (2001) NJSIAA  
Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

Possible Cross References:

1210	Community organizations
1320	Participation in out of school community activities
1322	Contests for pupils
2224	Nondiscrimination/affirmative action
3453	School activity funds
4143	Extra pay for extra work
5113	Absences and excuses
5126	Awards for achievement
5131	Conduct/discipline
5136	Fund-raising activities
5143	Insurance
5145.4	Equal educational opportunity
6010	Goals and objectives
6142	Subject fields
6142.5	Travel and exchange programs
6142.12	Career education
6145	Extracurricular Activities
6145.1/6145.2	Intramural competition; interscholastic competition
6145.4	Public performances and exhibitions
6145.5	Student organizations
6145.7	Social events/meetings
6146	Graduation requirements
6153	Field trips