

ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

I. Eligibility

In order for a student to be eligible for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities at the high school level, the following criteria shall be applied:

- A. Students entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade must have been regularly promoted, have been in regular attendance and have had satisfactory conduct for the preceding year;
- B. Students in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities if the student maintains a 2.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent for courses required for graduation. However, if a student in the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade falls below the 2.0 cumulative grade point average requirement, the student will be allowed to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities on a semester by semester basis if the student: (1) earns a 2.0 grade point average in courses taken in the previous semester (18 weeks) alone; (2) signs an academic performance contract with the school; and (3) if COMPASS labs are provided and the student is eligible to use the COMPASS labs, utilizes the COMPASS labs to remediate failing grades in core courses.
- C. Students in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades must maintain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent for courses required for graduation in order to be eligible for interscholastic extracurricular activities.

For students pursuing a special diploma as defined in school board policy, the 2.0 grade point average applies to those courses necessary for the completion of the requirements for such diploma as prescribed in school board policy;

- D. In order to be eligible for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities, students must, in addition to the above stated applicable requirements, receive a passing grade for each core course required for graduation. For the purpose of this policy, the term “core courses,” as the term is used to determine the eligibility of a high school student, shall include courses taken in the areas of math, science, social studies, and language arts. This requirement shall be applied at the end of each grading period;
- E. Students participating in interscholastic extracurricular activities must maintain satisfactory conduct as determined under School Board Policy 208; and
- F. Based upon the recommendation of the building principal, the superintendent shall have the authority to approve a request by an individual school to use more stringent requirements to determine eligibility, in addition to the requirements of this policy, provided such recommendations are consistent with adopted board policy and district curriculum.

II. Eighth Grade Participation

Eighth grade students are authorized to participate in spring activities of a practice nature with the high school they will attend upon completion of the eighth grade with the following stipulations:

- A. Participation of each student involved is to be authorized by both the middle and high school principals;
  - B. Participation in practice will not begin prior to May 1;
  - C. Written parental permission must be obtained prior to participation; and
  - D. Students participating in athletic activities will be required to submit evidence that physical examination by a qualified doctor has been conducted for the current school year.
- III. Interscholastic extracurricular activities, kindergarten through fifth grades, shall be prohibited. Interscholastic extracurricular activities shall be permitted in grades six, seven and eight only as approved by the Superintendent. Students entering sixth grade must have been regularly promoted, have been in regular attendance and have had satisfactory conduct for the preceding year in order to be eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities. Students participating in such activities must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent and maintain passing grades in all core courses. For the purpose of this policy, the term “core courses,” as the term is used to determine the eligibility of a middle school student, shall include courses taken in the areas of math, science, social studies, reading and language arts. However, if a student falls below the 2.0 cumulative grade point average requirement, the student will be placed on probation and will be allowed to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities for the next grading period if the student: (1) earned a 2.0 grade point average in courses taken in the previous grading period; and (2) signs an academic performance contract with the school. At the end of that next grading period, in order to maintain eligibility, the student’s cumulative grade point average must be 2.0 or greater and passes all core courses.
- IV. The rules and regulations of the appropriate district and/or state activities association shall be followed by high schools.
- V. Participation in Interscholastic Extracurricular Student Activities by Individual Home Education Students

An individual home education student shall be eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities provided the following conditions are met:

- A. The home education student must meet the requirements of the home education program pursuant to Florida Statute 1002.41;
- B. During the period of participation at a school, the home education student must demonstrate educational progress by maintaining a 2.0 grade point average and passing each class taken. Such progress shall be measured by a method of evaluation agreed upon by the parent and principal, which may include review of

the students work by a certified teacher chosen by the parent, grades earned through correspondence, grades earned in courses taken at a community college, university, or trade school, standardized test scores above the 35<sup>th</sup> percentile, or any other method designated in Florida Statute 1002.41;

- C. The student must meet the same residence requirements as other students in the school at which he or she participates;
- D. The student must meet the same standards of acceptance, behavior, and performance as required of other students in extracurricular activities, and must comply with the rules and regulations of the appropriate district/state activities association;
- E. The student must register with the school his or her intent to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities as a representative of the school prior to the beginning date of the season for the activity in which he or she wishes to participate;
- F. A student who transfers from a home education program to a public school prior to or during the first grading period of the school year shall be academically eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities during the first grading period provided the student has a successful evaluation from the previous school year, pursuant to paragraph B above; and
- G. Any student who has been unable to maintain academic eligibility for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities shall be ineligible to participate in such activities as a home education student until such time as the student has successfully completed each eighteen week period in home education pursuant to paragraph V. B. above, to become eligible to participate as a home education student.

Legal Authority:

Sections 1001.41(2), 1001.42(22), Florida Statutes

Law Implemented:

Section 1006.15, Florida Statutes

History:

(Adopted -- December 17, 1974)

(Revised -- November 25, 1986; October 10, 1995; October 28, 1997; March 17, 1998;

June 19, 2000; July 25, 2000; September 27, 2005)

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