

**DISTRICT-SPONSORED EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
AND ORGANIZATIONS**
(Districts Allowing Noncurricular Groups)

The Board of Education believes that student activities sponsored by the school district are a vital part of the total educational program. The district's extracurricular activities program will provide opportunities for additional learning experiences and will develop skills and interests through organized activities. Therefore, the Board authorizes the use of the district's facilities, employees and funds to provide student extracurricular activities or groups.

The Board directs the district's superintendent or designee to administer the district's extracurricular activities and groups in keeping with this policy, and to create administrative procedures to further the district's goals.

Definitions

All district-sponsored activities, groups and organizations meeting or occurring during noninstructional time will be referred to as extracurricular. However, extracurricular activities and groups will be further categorized as follows for legal purposes:

Cocurricular Activity or Group: A school-sponsored activity or group primarily involving students and occurring outside of academic class time, where

- ▶ The subject matter of the group is actually taught, or will soon be taught, in a regularly offered course;
- ▶ The subject matter of the group concerns the body of courses as a whole;
- ▶ Participation in the group is required for a particular course or results in academic credit

Noncurricular Activity or Group: School-sponsored activities or groups primarily involving students and meeting outside of academic class time, which are not cocurricular.

General

All extracurricular activities must have a duly-appointed sponsor, advisor or coach who is a district employee. It shall be the duty of such individuals to attend all meetings, functions or practices of the various groups, to advise and supervise students, and to keep the building principal informed regarding activities. All district-sponsored extracurricular activities should be included on the school calendar.

All students participating in extracurricular activities or groups are subject to district supervision and discipline. Students must comply with all policies, eligibility requirements, rules and procedures

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established by the district or established by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), when applicable.

Unless participation is required for an academic course in which the student is enrolled, participation in all extracurricular activities or groups is voluntary.

School activities that are scheduled by staff members shall not be scheduled on Sunday. Student participation in other Sunday activities in which the participants act as representatives of the Columbia School District may be permitted if approval is received from the office of the superintendent.

Exclusion from Activities or Groups

Students may belong to and take part in all extracurricular activities or groups for which they are qualified, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry or disability.

Unless participation in a group or activity is required for a course in which the student is enrolled, participation is a privilege, not a right. Students may be excluded from these groups as a disciplinary action, as a consequence for poor performance in school, or otherwise as determined by district administration. A student and/or his or her parents/guardians are not entitled to a hearing solely because the student has been excluded from an extracurricular activity which is not required for a course in which the student is enrolled.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Adopted: 03/03/1997

Revised: 07/11/2003

Cross Refs: AC, Prohibition Against Discrimination and Harassment
JFCF, Hazing and Bullying
KG, Community Use of School Facilities

Legal Refs: § 162.063, RSMo.
Westside Community Bd. of Ed. v. Mergens, 496 U.S. 226 (1990)
The Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. §4701, 4702

Columbia School District No. 93, Columbia, Missouri

