
INTRAMURAL COMPETITION; INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION

The board considers all competitive extra-curricular activities – academic, artistic and athletic – an integral part of the total educational program. Competitive activities shall be under the same administration and control as the rest of the school program and closely articulated with it.

Competitive activities can provide pupils with valuable experiences and opportunities. In this district, the emphasis in any competition – intramural or interscholastic – shall be on providing such experiences and opportunities rather than on producing winning teams or providing entertainment. Practice for or performance in any competitive event shall not interfere with the regular educational program.

The board shall approve all proposed interscholastic competition, either as a schedule or as a discrete event, whichever is appropriate. The board must approve membership in any leagues, associations and conferences, and any agreements with other schools for a series of games or events. Contests of any kind between and among the schools of the district shall be approved by the superintendent.

The board shall appoint coaches, advisors, physicians and other necessary supervisory personnel upon recommendation of the superintendent. The superintendent shall also ensure that training programs/regulations are developed for all extra-curricular athletic activities and that all physical facilities involved in any competition in which district schools take part shall be adequate, safe and sanitary.

Public recognition shall be given to participants in academic or artistic competitions in the same measure as to athletic competitors. The district's affirmative action resolution and plan for school and classroom practices shall apply to determining eligibility for competition, approval of each competitive activity in which pupils officially represent the district, and district expenditure to provide facilities and coaches.

Parental Consent

No pupil may participate in a school-sponsored physical activity outside the regular physical education curriculum without a signed consent form from a parent/guardian naming the activity and acknowledging that the activity may be hazardous.

Academic Eligibility

Academic standards for eligibility shall be those established by policy 6145.Extra-curricular Activities.

Attendance Standards

Attendance standards shall be those set in policy 5113 Absences and Excuses. In particular, a pupil shall not participate in a performance, exhibition, practice or athletic event unless he/she has been present in school that day or has been absent for an excused reason other than for sickness.

Disciplinary Standards

Disciplinary standards are based on board policies 5114 Suspension/Expulsion and 5144 Discipline/Punishment. Pupils on disciplinary probation or serving a detention or suspension may not practice, perform or compete. The superintendent and the building principal shall decide at the end of a probation or suspension whether the pupil may return to practice and competition.

Special Education Pupils

To participate in interscholastic competition, special education pupils must meet the same requirements listed above in conformity with IEPs.

Physical Eligibility

Each candidate for a school athletic squad or team is to be examined within 365 days prior to the first practice session, with examination being made available by the school physician for those students who do not have a medical home. Each candidate whose medical examination was completed more than 60 days prior to the first practice must provide a health history update of medical problems experienced since the last medical examination. This must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian.

The district must provide written notification, signed by the district physician, to the parent/guardian, stating approval of the student's participation in athletics based upon the medical examination or the reasons for the disapproval of the student's participation. The health findings of the medical examination for participation must be made part of the student's individual health record and must be documented on a form issued by the Commissioner of Education.

The superintendent shall present to the board for adoption procedures for administration of the required medical examination. The procedures for the medical examination to determine the fitness of a pupil to participate in athletics shall include a form for a medical history to be filled out and returned by a parent/guardian and a form to be filled out by the examining physician.

The medical examination to determine the fitness of a pupil to participate in athletics shall include, as a minimum, the following:

- A. A medical history questionnaire, completed by the parent/guardian of the pupil, to determine if the pupil:
 - 1. Has been medically advised not to participate in any sport, and the reason for such advice;
 - 2. Is under a physician's care and the reason for such care;
 - 3. Has experienced loss of consciousness after an injury;
 - 4. Has experienced a fracture or dislocation;
 - 5. Has undergone any surgery;
 - 6. Takes any medication on a regular basis, the names of such medication and the reasons for such medication;
 - 7. Has allergies including hives, asthma and reaction to bee stings;
 - 8. Has experienced frequent chest pains or palpitations;
 - 9. Has a recent history of fatigue and undue tiredness;
 - 10. Has a history of family members dying suddenly.
- B. A physical examination which shall include as a minimum, no less than:
 - 1. Measurement of weight, height, and blood pressure.
 - 2. Examination of the skin to determine the presence of infection, scars of previous surgery or trauma, jaundice, and purpura;

3. Examination of the eyes to determine visual acuity, use of eye glasses or contact lenses, and examination of the sclera for the presence of jaundice.
4. Examination of the ears to determine the presence of acute or chronic infection, perforation of the eardrum and gross hearing loss;
5. Examination of the nose to assess the presence of deformity which may affect endurance;
6. Assessment of the neck to determine range of motion and the presence of pain associated with such motion;
7. Examination of chest contour;
8. Auscultation and percussion of the lungs;
9. Assessment of the heart with attention to the presence of murmurs, noting rhythm and rate before and after exercise;
10. Assessment of the abdomen with attention to the possible presence of hepatomegaly, splenomegaly, or abnormal masses;
11. Assessment of the back to determine range of motion and abnormal curvature of the spine;
12. Examination of extremities to determine abnormal mobility or immobility, deformity, instability, muscle weakness or atrophy, surgical scars and varicosities;
13. Examination of the testes to determine the presence and descent of both testes, abnormal masses or configurations, or hernia;
14. Assessment of physiological maturation;
15. Neurological examination to assess balance and coordination and the presence of abnormal reflexes.

Date: January 15, 2003

Legal References:

<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:11-3	Voluntary associations regulating conduct of student activities, membership, rules and activities; membership; rules and regulations; appeals
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:26-2.1 et al.	Professional qualifications of high school directors of athletics
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:36-20	Discrimination; prohibition
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:40A	Substance abuse
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:43-1	Accident insurance for pupils authorized
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:4-1.3(a), -1.5(f)	Policy development . . .
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:8-4.2(a)9ii, 9iii	Evaluation of elements and standards (equal educational opportunity and affirmative action)
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:29	Health, safety and physical education

Title IV of the Education Amendments of 1972m 20 U. S. C. A. 1681

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U. S. C. A. 794 et seq.

New Jersey State Board of Education Resolution, May 2, 1984, requires local boards to adopt policy on academic eligibility for extracurricular activities. Must address grade point average, attendance requirements and course failure rate.

NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts (P. t. M. No. 700.7, revised July 1988)

