

*Existing policy, number 6145 adopted 9/6/95, appropriate as written, if still current practice, except for addition of legal reference. A sample follows for comparison and consideration.*

## **Instruction**

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

**Extra-Curricular Activities are defined as student participation on an athletic team and/or non-athletic club/student organization.**

#### **C Rule – (1.7 Numerical Average)**

The Board recognizes that extra-curricular activities, when properly planned and conducted in an appropriate, safe environment, represent an essential part of the educational experience. The Board supports such extra classroom activities and will attempt to make them available on a voluntary basis to the students. It is the Board's goal to provide each student with a balanced program of academic studies and extra-curricular activities.

Extra-curricular activities will be organized and supervised under the auspices of the school district. Extra-curricular activities shall not be secret in nature.

The following may be considered extra-curricular activities:

1. Student government and its related activities and organizations.
2. Musical festivals or contests, speech contest, debates, dramatics contests.
3. Organized activities which are part of interscholastic competition.
4. All types of interscholastic competition.
5. Special interest clubs.

The Board will approve specific extra-curricular activities through the authority it extends to school principals to authorize and administer them in keeping with this policy and regulations.

### **Academic Eligibility**

Students who plan to participate in approved extra-curricular programs are expected to demonstrate a suitable level of academic preparation and success. Experiences in the educational program will be enhanced through opportunities to become actively involved in a diversified extra-curricular program. The student must show evidence that there is successful progress and performance in the educational plan in order to derive the benefits from extra curricular participation. Standards and eligibility criteria will insure a balance between the opportunities for academic success and extra-curricular participation.

Students who participate in approved extra-curricular programs must meet any eligibility criteria required by the organizational body, if any, which governs such program and the East Hartford Public Schools Extracurricular Eligibility Academic Standard.

## Instruction

### Extra-Curricular Activities

#### Academic Eligibility (continued)

The Extra-Curricular Eligibility Academic Standard requires that each participating student take at least six (6) credits during a school year (at least 5 courses per semester for seniors) and maintain a grade average no lower than C- (1.7 numerical average) at the end of the marking period. This standard may be waived if an IEP for a handicapped student contains a request for such waiver. Students who do not meet the criteria for an athletic and/or non-athletic club/student organization as outlined in the present C-rule policy will be subjected to Academic probation.

~~The Extra-Curricular Eligibility Academic Standard will commence with a second semester, January-June.~~

#### Academic Probation

An ineligible student is defined as a student that does not meet the required numerical 1.7 GPA requirement per EHBOE C-Rule policy 6145.

1. Ineligible students will be permitted to tryout for an athletic team or non-athletic team during the onset of that athletic/non-athletic team's season, when the coach holds tryouts or when the activities director schedules meetings/practice. The student in question can only exercise this privilege if he or she adheres to the following requirements;
  - a. passing four (4) full courses/credits on his or her academic schedule as required by the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC),
  - b. carries six (6) full credits per year on his/her schedule (at least 5 courses per semester for seniors),
  - c. completes the required documents to play or participate including the parent permission form and physical form (when applicable or as required for that particular activity or non-team).
2. Ineligible students that make the athletic team (cut) during the tryout period or are selected to participate on the non-athletic club/student organization will be placed on the athletic/non-athletic club/school organization team's roster and be subject to academic probation. While on academic probation, ineligible students will follow a rigorous academic program designed to support the student in his or her quest to restore good academic standing (eligibility). Ineligible students will be under the strict guidance and supervision of the Athletic Director, Activities Coordinator, certified teachers, coaches and advisors. While on academic probation, the ineligible student is not able to play in an athletic contest or in a school sponsored event.

## Instruction

### Extra-Curricular Activities

#### Academic Probation (continued)

3. The academic probation status restricts the ineligible student from competing in athletic/non-athletic contests/events until the following academic provisions have been achieved. Students will earn eligibility status if the following is achieved;
  - a. Earn a 1.7 numerical GPA or higher when the interim progress report (IPR) is processed by the Athletic Department on week 5 of the quarter.
  - b. Attend mandatory study halls (monitored by certified staff) as directed by the Athletic Department.
  - c. Adhere to monitoring progress as directed by Athletic Director and/or Activities Coordinator.
4. Upon meeting the above mentioned requirements, the eligibility of the student will again be reviewed by the Athletic Director and/or Activities Coordinator. If the ineligible student is in compliance;
  - a. The student will become eligible and assume the same privileges as does an eligible student.
5. Students not achieving the 1.7 numerical GPA at the time of the IPR check in week five (5) will be further subject to the Athletic Director and/or Activities Coordinator. review and a determination regarding the status of the student in question will be made by the Athletic Director/Principal/Coach/Advisor.
6. At the end of each quarter, eligibility status for every ineligible student will be reviewed and determined upon official release of report cards.

Legal Reference: Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. § 4071 et. seq.

The No Child Left Behind Act, 20 USC 7905

*Westside Community Board of Education v. Mergens*

Policy adopted:	September 13, 1982	EAST HARTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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(Reviewed and approved by Policy Audit Committee)