

Proposed

NYSSBA Sample Policy 5200

**COCURRICULAR AND EXTRACURRICULAR PROGRAMS**

The Board of Education recognizes the educational values inherent in student participation in the extracurricular life of the school, and encourages such participation. It is committed to the assignment of staff for the formation of student groups for such purposes as building social relationships, developing interests in an academic area, and gaining an understanding of the elements and responsibilities of good citizenship.

Recognizing that student activities are a part of the school program, the Board has established the following criteria, which all student activity programs must meet:

- 1. student activities must have educational value for students;
- 2. student activities must be in balance with other curricular offerings in the schools; and
- 3. student activities must be managed in a professional manner.

The following guidelines will govern student activities programs:

- 1. student activities are those school activities that are voluntarily engaged in by students, have the approval of the school administration and do not carry credit toward promotion or graduation;
- 2. each school, under the direction of the Building Principal, will have a well-balanced and effectively administered student activity program designed to stimulate student growth and development by supplementing and enriching the curricular activities;
- 3. each activity should be designed to contribute directly to the educational, civic, social and ethical development of students involved;
- 4. the student activity program should receive the same attention in terms of philosophy, objectives, social setting, organization and evaluation that is given the regular school curriculum;
- 5. each school will develop definite written guidelines and procedures regulating the creation, organization, administration and dissolution of student activity programs;
- 6. the expenses involved in participating in any student activity and in the total program for a school year should be set so that a majority of the students may participate without financial strain;
- 7. activities must be open to all students, regardless of race, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, disability or other human differences;
- 8. activities must not place undue burdens upon students, teachers or schools;
- 9. activities should be held after classes are dismissed, or at an appropriate time during class time; and
- 10. activities at any level should be unique, not duplications of others already in operation.

Ref: *Santa Fe Indep. Sch. Dist. V. Doe*, 530 U.S. 290 (2000) (constitutionality of student-led prayers at interscholastic athletic activities)

Adoption date: