

Descriptor Term:
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Descriptor Code:
3.4500

Legal References: Americans With Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12134, 28 C.F.R. pt. 35; Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 4071-4074; Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et. seq.*, 34 C.F.R. Part 300; The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 705(20), 794, 34 C.F.R. pt. 104; G.S. 115C, art 9, 115C-474(4), -3911 *Policies Governing Services for Children with Disabilities*; State Board of Education Policy GCS-D-000; N.C. High School Athletic Association Handbook

Cross References: 1.7550/4.3500 Student Grievance Procedure; 3.7000 Evaluation of Student Progress; 4.3600 Code of Student Conduct; 4.4400 Attendance

The board recognizes the value of interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities in promoting leadership and team skills, practicing democratic principles, and encouraging the lifelong learning process. Students are encouraged to actively participate in extracurricular activities sponsored by the school system, including interscholastic athletics, student clubs and organizations and other school sponsored activities. All school sponsored extracurricular activities are open to all students attending that school unless a restriction is justified and has been approved by the principal. The principal shall ensure that students and parents are notified of the various opportunities for participation in school sponsored extracurricular activities. The principal shall establish any rules necessary for school sponsored extracurricular activities.

Participation in school sponsored extracurricular activities, including student clubs, organizations and interscholastic athletics, is a privilege, not a right, and may be reserved for students in good academic standing who meet behavior standards established by the board and the school. Participation in school sponsored extracurricular activities may be restricted if a student:

1. is not performing at grade level as provided in policy 3.7000, Evaluation of Student Progress
2. has exceeded the number of absences allowed by policy 4.4000, Attendance
3. has violated the student conduct standards found in the policy 4.3600
4. has violated school rules for conduct; or
5. who is participating in or who desires to participate in interscholastic athletics does not meet eligibility requirements as defined in the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Bylaws.

School administrators choosing to exercise the authority to restrict participation based upon any of the reasons provided in this paragraph shall provide this policy and any additional rules developed by the superintendent or the principal to all parents or guardians and students. The grievance procedure provided in policy 1.7550/4.3500, Student Grievance Procedure, may be utilized by parents or students aggrieved by a decision made pursuant to this policy.

Extracurricular activities may be used as a component of an at-risk student's intervention plan. The intervention plan may include providing for or restricting the student's participation in school sponsored extracurricular activities. If the plan restricts the student's participation in school sponsored extracurricular activities, the plan must include other intervention strategies designed to improve student performance.

Students with disabilities shall be accorded rights as required by federal and state law.

To the extent they are otherwise qualified, school administrators shall facilitate the inclusion and participation of transitioning military children in school sponsored extracurricular activities by:

- a. providing information about school sponsored extracurricular activities to transitioning military children; and
- b. waiving application deadlines.