

EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

For purposes of this policy, “extracurricular activities” means those learning activities sponsored by the Board, which do not comprise a part of the District’s formal curriculum. Such activities are ordinarily conducted wholly or partly outside of the regular school day. “Co-curricular activities” are those where practice takes place largely within the classroom setting (i.e. Art and Music).

The School Board recognizes that extracurricular and co-curricular activities enrich the educational and social development and experiences of students and shall adopt a plan for student participation in extra/co-curricular activities that does not compromise the integrity and purpose of the educational program.

The superintendent shall oversee the development of a comprehensive program of extra-curricular activities for the district. The superintendent shall present the proposed extra-curricular program to the board for consideration and approval in conjunction with the development of the budget for the year in which the program is to be implemented. No student extra-curricular activity shall be considered to be under the sponsorship of the District unless the Board has approved it.

The Superintendent shall establish a method for assigning coaches and advisors for the support of extra-curricular activities, subject to the approval of the Board.

Eligibility Requirements:

In order to participate in extra/co-curricular activities, students in grades 6 through 12 must demonstrate satisfactory educational progress toward meeting the requirements for graduation.

The Superintendent or designee may exempt from eligibility requirements extra/co-curricular activities or programs that are offered primarily for the student’s academic or educational achievement.

To encourage and support academic excellence, the School Board requires students in grades 6 through 12 to earn a minimum of 2.0 or “C” grade point average in order to participate in extra/co-curricular activities. Students with any grades below a “C-” do not meet eligibility requirements.

The School Board desires to balance the academic needs of students with the benefits they receive from participating in school activities. The Superintendent or designee may grant ineligible students a probation period of not more than one semester. In implementing this policy the Superintendent or designee shall help ineligible students regain eligibility.

The Superintendent or designee may revoke a student’s eligibility for participation in extra/co-curricular activities when a student’s poor citizenship is serious enough to warrant loss of this privilege.

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Participation by Students Enrolled in an Alternative Education Program

A high school student who is enrolled full-time in an alternative education program is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities in the student's district of residence if the student's alternative program does not offer interscholastic activities. The student is required to meet the same eligibility criteria for participation as district students and must provide documentation, including transcripts, proof of full-time enrollment, applicable disciplinary records and medical records if required for participation in the activity. The students must claim the same school for interscholastic purposes during a school year.

The School Board welcomes the participation in extracurricular activities of eligible students who are enrolled full time in alternative education programs. Participation is available to those students who would be permitted to enroll in the district based on residency of the student's parent or legal guardian. Participation is available in those interscholastic activities sanctioned by the Alaska School Activities Association that occur outside the regular curriculum. Participation is not available in student government at a school.

The alternative education program in which a student is enrolled must be located entirely in Alaska and must be a public secondary school that provides a nontraditional education program, including the Alaska Military Youth Academy; a public vocational, remedial or theme-based program; an accredited home school program; a charter school or a statewide correspondence school.

In addition to the activities participation fee, High School students enrolled in an Alternative Education Program, who are not enrolled in Wrangell Public Schools for at least .25 fee, will be expected to pay all costs associated with travel for the activity.

Note: A student wanting to participate in activities but whose parent or legal guardian is not a resident of the district may still request participation. A student meeting all other requirements will be eligible if the Board approves participation based on good cause demonstrated by the student. Good cause is not defined in statute. The Board considering all applicable circumstances should make decisions on eligibility on a case-by-case basis. Such determination should be evenly applied to students in similar situations.

The Board recognizes that good cause may exist for a student to participate in district extracurricular activities even if the student's parent or guardian does not reside within the district. Students who attend an alternative education program full time and who otherwise meet the eligibility requirements for the extracurricular activity(ies) may apply to the district for participation despite the lack of residency. Such a request must be submitted to the superintendent or designee with a written explanation of good cause that exists. The Board must approve eligibility in this situation.

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Unless the parent or eligible student's presence is requested at a meeting of the Board, the Board's decision will be based upon the written request submitted, including any recommendation by the superintendent or designee. Board approval will be effective for the school year in which the student applies and may be renewed annually if the good cause continues to exist.

District Funding for Activities

Wrangell Public Schools requires the number of students participating in the following extracurricular and co-curricular activities in order to fund the activity for the school year:

Art Festival:	6 students
Band & Choir:	6 students
Baseball:	11 students
Basketball:	8 students
Cheerleading:	6 students
Close-Up*:	6 students
Cross Country:	6 students
Drama, Debate & Forensics:	6 students
Softball:	11 students
Swimming	6 students
Volleyball:	9 students
Wrestling:	6 students

If the minimum participation rate is not met within ten days of the official start of the season, the school district will still sanction the activity however, funding will not be provided for travel or coach/advisor stipends.

If the number of participants falls below the threshold required by ASAA to participate in a sanctioned event, the season will be terminated and the coaches' contracts pro-rated.

*The School District pays a stipend and travel for the Close-up Advisor. Students are always required to pay for their own travel for the National Close-up program.

The superintendent, by regulation, shall establish operating procedures for the extra-curricular program.

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Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTE

14.30.365 Inter-scholastic activities; eligibility

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 06.520 Recreational and athletic activities

4 AAC 06.600 Definitions

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