

POLICY BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Related Entries: IQA-RA, IQB-RA, IQD-RA, IQD-RB
Responsible Office: Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Chief Operating Officer

Academic Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities

A. PURPOSE

To articulate the Board of Education's (Board) commitment to providing an array of extracurricular opportunities for students. Having a variety of extracurricular options including, but not limited to, cultural arts, athletics, and other team activities is an essential part of a complete educational experience. The Board supports having both extracurricular activities requiring academic eligibility and extracurricular activities predicated upon open enrollment.

B. ISSUE

Academic eligibility standards for middle and high school participation in extracurricular activities listed as stipend-compensated activities in the negotiated *Agreement Between Montgomery County Education Association and the Montgomery County Board of Education* (hereafter referred to as the Agreement) must be established and communicated. Extracurricular activities are a valuable part of the entire education of each student. However, participation in extracurricular activities should be maintained and supported by academic standards. It is the obligation of the school system to make supports for maintaining academic performance and academic eligibility available to students.

C. POSITION

Decisions regarding a student's academic eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities will be made as follows. Students in middle and high schools must maintain a 2.0 average with no more than one failing grade in the previous marking period to be eligible to participate in any activity listed as a stipend-compensated activity in the Agreement. This does not apply to students in the fall entering middle or high school for the first time or to students engaged in activities that are extensions of a graded course.

Students in middle school who are not academically eligible may petition to be reinstated in an activity if they have shown evidence of progress toward meeting eligibility standards. Middle school principals will make final decisions regarding these petitions.

D. DESIRED OUTCOMES

Each student should maintain high academic standards while also pursuing extracurricular activities that contribute to a well-rounded education.

E. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

1. All middle and high schools should provide and communicate opportunities for all students to participate in extracurricular activities by ensuring that there are a range of possibilities, including extracurricular activities with open enrollment that do not require academic eligibility.
2. Schools should help students retain or regain eligibility for all extracurricular activities requiring academic eligibility by providing and referring students to such support activities as contracts, tutoring programs, mentoring and monitoring programs, academic support classes and counseling, study halls during or afterschool, outreach programs and/or other programs.
3. Schools should share best practices that increase student academic eligibility for extracurricular activities.
4. Schools should develop mechanisms to evaluate the effectiveness of support programs.
5. The superintendent will publish regulations to implement this policy as needed.

F. REVIEW AND REPORTING

1. The superintendent will report annually to the Board on high school academic ineligibility rates disaggregated by grade level, race/ethnicity, gender, and receipt of special services in the Annual Report.
2. This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Board of Education review process.

Policy History: Adopted by Resolution No. 697-90, November 13, 1990; reformatted December 1996; amended by Resolution No. 37-05, February 14, 2006; amended by Resolution 239-11, May 10, 2011.

Note previous policy history: Adopted by Resolution No. 285-86, May 13, 1986; reformatted in accordance with Resolution 458-86, August 12, 1986; rescinded by Resolution No. 697-90; November 13, 1990.