



Frederick County Public Schools
Board of Education
EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
Policy 509

A. Policy Purpose

To establish Board of Education of Frederick County (Board) expectations as they relate to student participation and equity in extracurricular activities, co-curricular activities, and athletic programs, which promote a culture of civility.

B. Definitions

1. “Co-curricular” is defined to mean programs and activities associated with a particular class and in which all students enrolled in the class must participate as part of their grade.
2. “Corollary Athletics” or “Corollary” is defined to mean an athletic program specifically designed to combine groups of students with and without disabilities together in physical activity and is not governed by the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA).
3. “Extracurricular Activities” is defined to mean FCPS sponsored activities available to students beyond the regular school day, which are voluntary and not required for satisfactory completion of a particular class.
4. “Interscholastic Athletic Program” or “Interscholastic Athletics” is defined to mean FCPS’s grades 9-12 athletic program that is governed by the requirements of the MPSSAA detailed in COMAR 13A.06.03.
5. “Parent” is defined to mean a biological or adoptive parent, a court-appointed custodian or guardian, a foster parent, or a caregiver (as defined by the Education Article of the Maryland Annotated Code or as designated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Refugee Resettlement).
6. “Student” is defined to mean an individual who is attending or has attended FCPS and for whom FCPS maintains the student’s records or personally identifiable information. “Student” does not mean an individual who has not been enrolled in an FCPS school or program.

C. Policy Statement

1. The Board recognizes the value of student participation in extracurricular activities and understands such programs serve as a viable complement to a student’s overall educational experience. Academic achievement for every student is the cornerstone of the Board’s goals, as is creating a culture of wellness for all students.

2. Extracurricular activities promote student achievement and engagement in the school community and present opportunities to learn teamwork, fairness, respect, and collaborative problem-solving skills necessary to be productive citizens.
3. All students may participate in extracurricular activities regardless of gender, race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation, subject to the academic eligibility criteria or other eligibility, as set forth in this Policy.

D. Implementation

1. **Applicability.** This Policy applies to students, their parents, and the Frederick County community.
2. **Permitted Activities**
 - a. The Board delegates to the Superintendent the authority to determine official FCPS extracurricular activities.
 - b. Extracurricular activities may be offered to students in Grades Kindergarten (K) through 12.
 - c. Interscholastic athletics and marching band are not part of the school program for students in Grades K through 8.
 - d. Co-curricular programs and activities, such as band, chorus, or drama, are designated in the course guide program overview.
3. **Academic Standards for Participation in Extracurricular Activities in High School**
 - a. The Board considers participation in extracurricular activities a student privilege not a student right.
 - b. Therefore, in order to participate in extracurricular activities, a student must maintain specific academic standards as established in [FCPS Regulation 500-24, *Academic Standards for Participation in Extracurricular Activities in High School*](#), with the exception of local school clubs that do not represent the school outside of the school through competitions, performances, or other public displays.
4. **Conduct Standards for Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities**
 - a. Any behavior that is deemed derogatory, disruptive, or detrimental to the team may bring consequences ranging from diminished playing time to dismissal from the team in addition to consequences outlined under [FCPS Regulation 403-01, *Student Discipline*](#) (formerly 400-08). School administrators shall be responsible for deciding appropriate discipline in accordance with [FCPS Regulation 403-01, *Student Discipline*](#) (formerly 400-08), and the [FCPS Student Code of Conduct](#).
 - b. FCPS employees, volunteers, or spectators who behave in a derogatory or disruptive manner may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including denial where appropriate, ineligibility to be a volunteer, and/or restricted access to FCPS property.
5. **Access and Equity**
 - a. The Board supports provisions of Title IX and the implementation of the athletic program to reflect equity in funding, scheduling, and access to program and facilities.

The program will allow all interested students, an equitable opportunity to enjoy the benefits of athletic participation and to pursue the academic requirements for a high school diploma.

- b. The Board supports provisions of the corollary athletic program, which promotes the inclusion of students with disabilities in school athletic programs.
- c. All students with disabilities will have opportunities for participation in mainstream physical education and interscholastic athletic programs. Appropriate and reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities shall be provided. Adapted physical education programs and corollary athletic programs will be available to all students.
- d. Athletic programs are administered in accordance with the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), the regulations of the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA), or the sport specific governing body.

6. Title IX Complaints

- a. Complaints alleging Title IX violations related to inequity or discrimination in interscholastic high school athletic programming and facilities may be submitted to the Supervisor of Athletics and Extracurricular Activities who serves as the Title IX coordinator for such allegations.
- b. Complaints alleging Title IX violations related to sexual discrimination shall be addressed in accordance with [Board Policy 116, Title IX Sexual Harassment](#).

7. The Superintendent shall:

- a. Develop and maintain regulations to implement this Policy; and
- b. Provide an annual report to the Board.

E. Related Information

1. Board Policy

- a. [Policy 116, Title IX Sexual Harassment](#)
(<https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/116>)
- b. [Policy 309, Discrimination and Harassment – Employees/Applicants/Community Members](#)
(<https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/309>)
- c. [Policy 437, Bullying-Harassment-Intimidation](#)
(<https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/437>)
- d. [Policy 444, Educational Equity and Excellence](#)
(<https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/444>)
- e. [Policy 508, Supporting Special Education Students](#)
(<https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/508>)

2. Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR)

- a. [COMAR 13A.06.03, Interscholastic Athletics in the State](#)
(https://fcps-md.info/COMAR_13A-06-03)
- b. [COMAR 13A.06.04, Corollary Athletic Programs](#)
(https://fcps-md.info/COMAR_13A-06-04)

3. FCPS Regulations

- a. [Regulation 116-01, Title IX Sexual Harassment](https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/116-01)
(https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/116-01)
 - b. [Regulation 400-25, National Honor Society](https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/400-25)
(https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/400-25)
 - c. [Regulation 400-48, Bullying, Harassment, Intimidation Complaint Process for Students](https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/400-48)
(https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/400-48)
 - d. [Regulation 403-01, Student Discipline](https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/403-01) (formerly 400-08)
(https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/403-01)
 - e. [Regulation 409-01, Student Wellness](https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/409-01)
(https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/409-01)
 - f. [Regulation 500-24, Academic Standards for Participation in Extracurricular Activities in High School](https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/500-24)
(https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/500-24)
 - g. [Regulation 509-01, Student Clubs](https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/509-01) (formerly 400-58)
(https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/509-01)
 - h. [Regulation 509-02, FCPS Unified Sports Program](https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/509-02) (formerly 400-92)
(https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/509-02)
4. **FCPS Resources**
- a. [FCPS / Athletics](https://www.fcps.org/athletics)
(https://www.fcps.org/athletics)
 - b. [FCPS / Families & Students / Extracurricular Activities](https://www.fcps.org/families_students/extracurricular_activities)
(https://www.fcps.org/families_students/extracurricular_activities)
 - c. [FCPS Student Code of Conduct](https://www.fcps.org/families_students/student_code_of_conduct)
(https://www.fcps.org/families_students/student_code_of_conduct)
 - d. [FCPS Athletic Handbook](#)
 - e. [FCPS Extracurricular Activities Handbook](#)
5. **Federal Law**
- a. [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA\)](https://fcps-md.info/IDEA_20_USC_1400)
(https://fcps-md.info/IDEA_20_USC_1400)
 - b. [Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 \(Section 504\)](https://fcps-md.info/Section_504_29_USC_794)
(https://fcps-md.info/Section_504_29_USC_794)
 - c. [Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C 1681](https://fcps-md.info/Title_IX_20_USC_1681)
(https://fcps-md.info/Title_IX_20_USC_1681)
6. **Maryland Statutes**
- a. [Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 4-205](https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_4-205)
(https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_4-205)
 - b. [Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 7-4b-01](https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_7-4b-01)
(https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_7-4b-01)
 - c. [Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 7-4b-02](https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_7-4b-02)
(https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_7-4b-02)
 - d. [Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 7-4b-03](https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_7-4b-03)
(https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_7-4b-03)
 - e. [Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 8-403](#)

(https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_8-403)

F. Policy History (Maintained by Legal Services)

<i>Responsible Office</i>	Department of Curriculum and Instruction; Athletics Department
Adoption Dates	06/11/08
Review Dates	
Revision Dates	12/13/17; 11/13/19; 09/09/20; 11/10/21; 09/09/26