

POLICY	BOARD OF EDUCATION OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND
EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	POLICY 509
<p>509.1 Permitted Activities</p> <p>509.2 Academic Standards for Participation in Extracurricular Activities</p> <p>509.3 Conduct Standards for Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities</p> <p>509.4 Access and Equity</p>	

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

Policy Statement 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 each and every student is the cornerstone of the Board’s goals, as is creating a culture of wellness for all students. Therefore, time commitments for extracurricular activities will incorporate these goals to achieve a reasonable balance for students who seek to participate in extracurricular activities.

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.

This policy promotes equity of access to extracurricular activities for all students. Additionally, this policy reflects the value of all courses taken through Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) by including dual enrollment, virtual and summer session classes.

Definitions

“Co-curricular” relates to programs and activities associated with a particular class and in which all students in the class must participate as part of the grade.

“Extracurricular activities” are school-sponsored activities beyond regular class activities in which the student represents the school, such as athletics, clubs/organizations, or class/club officers.

“Corollary athletic program” is specifically designed to combine groups of students with and without disabilities together in physical activity and competition.

509.1 Permitted Activities

Extracurricular activities are provided as follows:

- A. With the exception of paragraph B below, extracurricular activities are offered to students in grades nine through twelve.
- B. Exceptions may be made for elementary and middle school students by the Superintendent's designee when younger students are needed for a drama or musical theater program.
- C. In grade kindergarten through eight, interscholastic sports and marching band are not part of the school program for the students.
- D. Co-curricular programs and activities are those activities which are countywide expectations for a particular class and in which all students in the class must participate as part of their grade. These activities are designated in the course guide program overview, such as band, chorus, or drama.

509.2 Academic Standards for Participation in Extracurricular Activities

The school system considers participation in extracurricular activities a student privilege not a student right. Therefore, in order to participate in extracurricular activities, a student must maintain specific academic standards as established in FCPS Regulation 500-24.

509.3 Conduct Standards for Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities

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 400-08 Discipline. Appropriate school staff and/or coach shall be responsible for deciding appropriate discipline in accordance with FCPS Regulation 400-08 Discipline and the Guide for Student-Athletes and Parents. Note: The Guide includes a link to FCPS Systemic Procedures for Reporting Accusations/Use of Racial Slurs or Discriminatory Practices.

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.

509.4 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.

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.

- C. Athletic programs are administered in accordance with the regulations of the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSAA).
- D. The Superintendent shall develop regulations for implementation of the intent of this policy and provide an annual report to the Board.
- E. Complaints alleging Title IX violations as they relate to inequity or discrimination in interscholastic high school athletics may be submitted to the Supervisor of Athletics and Extracurricular Activities who serves as the Title IX coordinator for such allegations.

Note: Complaints from employees or applicants alleging Title IX violations as they relate to sexual discrimination should refer to Board Policy 116 *Title IX Sexual Harassment* and Board Policy 309 *Discrimination Unlawful*.

Legal Reference	COMAR 13A.06.03 Interscholastic Athletics in the State		
	COMAR 13A.06.04 Corollary Athletic Program		
	Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681		
Source Documents	Board Policy <u>116</u> <i>Title IX Sexual Harassment</i>		
	Board Policy <u>444</u> <i>Educational Equity</i>		
	FCPS Regulation <u>400-08</u> <i>Discipline</i>		
	FCPS Regulation <u>400-48</u> <i>Bullying-Harassment-Intimidation Complaint Process for Students</i>		
	FCPS Regulation <u>500-24</u> <i>Academic Standards for Participation in Extracurricular Activities in High School</i>		
Policy History	Reviewed: 2017, 2019, 2020, 2021	Adopted: 6/11/08	Revised: 11/10/21