


Superintendent's Regulation 5305-R

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES REGULATION

  
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9/16/11

Approved Upon Superintendent's Initials

Date

Students participating in all extracurricular activities and/or interscholastic athletics, except those that are required to obtain class credit, shall be subject to the following eligibility requirements:

**A. Academic Eligibility**

General Requirements

Students must meet the District's mandatory attendance requirements in all classes in accordance with the current RCSD Attendance Policy. In order to be eligible for extracurricular activities students must maintain a cumulative "C" or a 2.0 average for all scheduled subjects, maintain a 90% daily in-class attendance\* for all classes, demonstrate good school citizenship, and meet any requirements set by Section V.

Additional Requirements

A student who meets the General Requirements above, nevertheless, will be **ineligible** if he or she is failing in two or more classes, regardless of his/her cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA). Students who are ineligible under this paragraph may participate in practice if they attend tutoring in the failing subjects. Students will remain ineligible under this paragraph until the student receives either a 3-week progress report or marking period grade report which shows that, in addition to meeting the General Requirements, the student is receiving a failing grade in no more than one class and a "C" or a 2.0 average. (Student's failing one class and have a "C" or a 2.0 average will be placed on probation.)

During any ineligible period, the school attended by the student must provide opportunities for the student to receive additional academic assistance and/or tutoring.

Probation

A student who meets the General Requirements, but whose 3-week progress report or marking period report card shows that he or she is failing any one class and a "C" or a 2.0 average, shall be placed on academic probation for so long as the student's reported grades or 3-week progress reports indicate at least one failing class and a "C" or a 2.0 average.

While on academic probation a student may participate in practice, competitions and other extracurricular activities provided that he/she meets all conditions of probation including:

1. Tutoring: All students on probation or ineligible but still wishing to participate in extracurricular activities must attend tutoring in any failing subject through either:
  - a. The Athletic Study Eligibility Program (ASEP) sessions, if available, on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday when school is in session. The student must sign the ASEP Contract Participating Agreement (Exhibit 1). The

ASEP is arranged by Department of Health, Physical Education and Athletic Department along with the building Athletic Director; or

- b. Special academic assistance as assigned/approved by the building Principal or his/her designee (i.e. Athletic Director/Assistant Principal in a specific subject area) as deemed necessary and appropriate and depending on teacher availability.
- c. Students must maintain 100% attendance in study sessions, in order to be able to participate in practices and/or contests as set forth above.

## **B. Standards of Conduct**

Students participating in extracurricular athletics and activities are perceived as leaders within the school community and are expected to be good role models and to act in a responsible manner. At a minimum, in addition to the above, to remain eligible for extracurricular activities and/or interscholastic athletics, students must conform to the established behavior standards as defined in RCSD Code of Conduct and relevant administrative regulations and guidelines. Behavioral standards include a ban on consumption/use of alcoholic beverages, drugs and/or tobacco products. These standards extend to student conduct off school grounds, including student attendance at parties off school grounds where alcohol and/or illegal drugs are present.

The Athletic Director will provide coaches with copies of the Code of Conduct and any other applicable standards of conduct for dissemination to students at the start of each school year and interscholastic sport season. Club/extracurricular activity advisors should request copies of the Code of Conduct from the building Principal to be distributed to participants. The Athletic Director or designee should also discuss these expectations with participating students.

Students who are subject to disciplinary suspension, in school or out-of-school, shall not be eligible to participate in any weeks in which they receive such suspension. The building Principal may suspend a student from participation in extracurricular activities, including interscholastic athletics, as a consequence for bad behavior. Prior to such suspensions, the student and parent shall have an opportunity to meet with the Principal to discuss the proposed discipline.

## **C. Eligibility Process**

The Coordinating Administrator of Health, Physical Education & Athletics has the primary responsibility for administering the Eligibility Policy. However, it is the responsibility of the building Principal or his/her designee and the Athletic Director to monitor the student's academic progress and compliance with this regulation.

Prior to allowing a student to participate in extracurricular activities or interscholastic athletics, the Athletic Director or applicable advisor shall review the student's attendance, disciplinary record and grade report for the preceding 6-week marking period. If the student meets all of the General Requirements and Additional Requirements, he/she will be declared eligible to participate. Eligibility for fall sports may be based upon either the student's sixth marking period grades or the student's final cumulative GPA for the prior school year. Students, who are eligible based upon final cumulative GPA and/or attendance record, but who failed to meet the General Requirements and Additional Requirements based upon their sixth marking period report card, shall be placed on academic probation at the beginning of the season. Summer school grades may replace failed course grades.

All students will be required to obtain a Three Week Progress Report in each of their academic subject areas (Exhibit 2), which will provide the following information:

- a. Daily attendance, including tardiness;
- b. Whether all homework and class assignments have been completed;
- c. Academic Progress since last marking period;
- e. Attendance at mandatory study halls and/or tutoring sessions; and
- f. Any disciplinary referrals.

Each classroom teacher must sign the Progress Report or it will be considered invalid. Forgery of any teachers name will result in immediate dismissal from the athletic program or extracurricular activity. Student report cards will be used to determine eligibility at the six-week marking periods. If there is a significant difference between the Progress Report and a student's report card, the Principal or designee shall meet with the teacher to determine the reason for such difference.

Upon receipt of the Progress Reports or report cards, the Athletic Director or designee shall determine, whether a student is eligible to participate, should be placed on probation, or is ineligible to participate. Generally, ineligibility will continue for three-week periods. Upon a showing of improved academic performance (by at least 1 letter grade, e.g. D to C) and class/tutoring attendance, the Principal may request that the Athletic Director reconsider a student's eligibility prior to the end of the three week period.

Any requests for reconsideration regarding a student's/athlete's eligibility status based on extenuating circumstances will remain within the province of the building Principal for determination. The documents and process in which these decisions are made must be kept on file at the building level.

#### **D. Training Rules**

To remain eligible for interscholastic athletics, students must conform to the established training rules for the sport in which they are participating. "Training Rules" are generally accepted as a condition of participation in student athletics, and include such requirements as attendance at practices and participation in individual training programs. All students/athletes and parents will be required to sign Parent Consent forms for the year and a Sports Contract at the beginning of every season, in order for their children to participate in the athletic program.

#### **E. Athletic Transfer and Eligibility**

Under Section V rules, transferring to a different school within the District may adversely affect a student's ability to participate in interscholastic sports. If a student athlete expresses an interest in transferring to another school within the District, the following steps should be taken:

1. The student's current coach, Athletic Director, and/or building administrator, must have a documented conversation with student and parents about the possible implications a transfer may have on their child's athletic participation for the current or upcoming school year.
  - a. If a student athlete approaches his or her coach or the coach in a school building of interest, that coach must immediately advise the Athletic Director of the student's current school of all issues, concerns, or applications. Coaches are expressly prohibited from recruiting student athletes from other schools within the District.

2. The Athletic Director, in consultation with the Executive Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics, shall review information and determine whether the student's ability to participate in interscholastic athletics will be adversely affected by a transfer.
  - a. If the Athletic Director determines that the student's ability to participate in interscholastic athletics will be adversely affected by a transfer, the Athletic Director shall provide the student and his or her parents a written explanation of Section V's rules and the consequences of transferring. If the student and/or parent still wishes to request a transfer, the written explanation shall be included with the voluntary transfer request.
  - b. If the Athletic Director determines that the student's ability to participate in interscholastic athletics should not be adversely affected by a transfer, the Athletic Director shall document the reasons for such determination, which shall be included with the student's voluntary transfer request.
3. If the Athletic Director determines that a transfer should not adversely affect a student's ability to participate in interscholastic athletics or the student and/or parent disagrees with the Athletic Director's negative determination, the Executive Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics shall forward the student's application for voluntary transfer and any supporting information to the Executive Director of Section V, who shall make a final and binding determination of the student's eligibility to participate in interscholastic athletics should he/she transfer to the school of interest.
4. The Executive Director of Health, Physical Education and Athletics shall inform the Athletic Director of Section V's determination, who shall advise the student and parent. If the student and/or parent wish to continue with the voluntary transfer process, the student's application for voluntary transfer shall be forwarded to Placement for processing according to the District's usual transfer procedures.
5. The above procedures shall not be required for students requesting a safety transfer under Superintendent's Regulation 8135-R.

Coaches who attempt to influence or bypass the requirements of this regulation will be subject to discipline up to and including, removal from their coaching position and disqualification from future coaching assignments.

\*Absences due to serious illness or disability shall not be counted against daily attendance. Other extenuating circumstances of a serious nature (e.g. family death) also may be excused at the discretion of the Athletic Director.