

Policy 415: Extracurricular Activities

The School Board authorizes and encourages extra-class activities as a fundamental and integral part of the educational program. Access to and participation in extracurricular activities shall be open to all students as provided in state and federal regulations. Student activities are voluntary and do not carry credit toward graduation. Extracurricular activities shall be under the direct supervision of each school and shall supplement the regular classroom program. Such activities must contribute to the fulfillment of the purposes of each school. They must be evaluated periodically and be so organized and administered as to minimize interruptions of the classroom program. Students shall not be permitted to engage in these activities to the point that they interfere with regular class work.

All high schools shall be members of the Virginia High School League and shall conduct all interscholastic activities under its rules and regulations and under such other rules and regulations as may be adopted by the Board.

Secret societies have no place in the list of extracurricular programs recognized and promoted in the schools. Any and all activities connected with secret societies (i.e., fraternities and sororities) are prohibited.

Notifications

Information about extracurricular activities should be shared using multiple communication methods whenever possible. School Board employees and school volunteers are prohibited from using a social media platform as the sole means of communication with students for the facilitation of school-related extracurricular activities. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the use of school division-approved communication or messaging applications.

The Superintendent may provide a written exception to this prohibition when such use is required to meet an objective that cannot be reasonably achieved without such use. The Superintendent must provide clear, written instructions on such use and may revoke such exception at any time.

Legal References:

- IDEA Act 2004 amended by the IDEA through Public Law 114-95, the Every Student Succeeds Act, in December 2015.
- Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-79.3:2

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