



GRADES 4-8 CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Regional School Unit-24 (RSU) Board (RSUB) believes that student co-curricular activities (CCA) are an integral part of school life and are used as a means of developing wholesome attitudes and good interpersonal relations as well as knowledge and skills.

Although these activities often require as much careful planning and supervision as student experiences in academic subject areas, CCA participation must not take precedence over academics or jeopardize student achievement. The RSUB has therefore established eligibility, sportsmanship/ citizenship standards and other requirements in order to provide quality co-curricular experiences for all RSU Grade Schools.

For the purpose of this policy: “co-curricular program” and “program” refer to any RSU school-sponsored activity, athletic and non-athletic, for which a grade is not received; “physician” includes physicians, dentists, nurses and other licensed health professionals when prescribing/performing within the scope of their licensed authority; “advisor” refers to an activity’s coach, director or advisor; and “parent” refers to the student’s parent or guardian.

Participation in CCAs is a privilege, not a right. Before a student may participate in any CCA during the current school year, he/she must acknowledge in writing that he/she has read and understands the terms of this policy and agree to comply with them. The student’s parent must also acknowledge in writing that he/she has read the policy and understands that the student’s participation in any CCA is subject to the terms of this policy. Only one student and parent acknowledgement will be required per school year.

A. Medical Approval

1. Athletics

All RSU CCA participants must have a physical examination the year they begin athletics, at their own expense, conducted by a licensed physician, before they may participate in interscholastic or intramural athletic activities. Another physical examination will be required if the student’s coach, the Director of Student Activities and/or the building administrator (BA) are concerned about the effect of continued participation on the student’s health, based upon observation of the student in practice or competition. In the event of an injury which precludes participation in athletic activity, the student’s physician and parent must give written approval before the student may resume participation.

2. Non-athletics

In the event an extended illness or injury (5 or more consecutive days) precludes participation in non-athletic programs, the student’s physician and parent must give written approval to the BA before the student may resume participation.

B. Insurance

Proof of insurance and permission for emergency medical treatment must be presented before a student may participate in any RSU CCA.

C. Eligibility

1. Academic

In order to be academically eligible to participate in any CCA, a student must be passing all courses as noted on the **mid-season/mid-activity grade check** as well as the end of trimester rank card. A grade of “passing” must also be achieved in subjects that are not numerically graded. A failing grade will make the student ineligible. A grade of Incomplete on a report card will make the student ineligible until the work is completed. As soon as the work is made up, the student may resume full participation (including trips, end of season awards, etc.).

a. At Report Card Time:

Any student who is failing one or more courses on his/her report card will be placed on academic probation.

The probation period will begin the day report cards are issued and will be reviewed **three** school weeks from this date. If the student wishes to return to the CCA after the probationary period, then the student must attend all practices/rehearsals/meetings of the activity, but will not be allowed to participate.

If the student does not attend all CCA practices/rehearsals/meetings, then that student forfeits the opportunity to rejoin the activity following the probationary period. **Any exceptions to this will be made by the coach/director.**

Following the academic probationary period, if the student’s grades are passing, he/she will be restored to full participatory status with the stipulation that the student file a weekly grade check with the BA (or designee) for the remainder of that ranking period. It is the student’s responsibility to have each of his/her grades checked on a weekly basis.

If during any week within the respective ranking period, the student fails to meet this responsibility or does not meet academic criteria, the student will become academically ineligible for the remainder of that ranking period. Any student who is not meeting academic standards after the four-week probationary period is ineligible for the duration of the trimester.

b. At the Mid-Season/Mid-Activity Grade Check Time:

Any student who is failing in one or more courses **at the mid-season/mid-activity grade check time** will be placed on academic probation for a period of two weeks. The student must follow the probation procedures as outlined in section C.1.a. If after two weeks, the student is still failing, the student remains ineligible for participation until report cards are issued.

NOTE: Exceptions to the above may be made by the BA and such advisory committees as he/she deems necessary.

c. At End of Third Trimester:

Students who are academically ineligible to begin a school year because of failing a subject in the third trimester will need to follow the procedures outlined in section C.1.a above.

d. Academic Detention: Students assigned an academic detention to complete missing work must attend the detention on the day assigned. The student may participate in CCAs following the detention.

For excessive detentions, students on athletic teams will incur the following consequences:

- 3 detentions in a season = loss of the next game
- 5 detentions in a season = removal of the team for a week
- 10 detentions in a season = removal of the team for the rest of the season

For excessive detentions, students in activities will incur the following consequences:

- 3 detentions in a season= loss of practice for one week
- 5 detentions in a season=loss of one formal performance/event
- 10 detentions in a season=removal of the team for the rest of the season

2. Disciplinary

Students serving a suspension may not participate in any CCA's activities during the assigned suspension. Students assigned to serve a detention on the day of a practice, game, or performance must serve the detention first and then report to their CCA.

D. Care and Responsibility of Equipment

It is the student's responsibility to care for any RSU equipment issued to him/her during the school year. Any student who does not return all equipment will be billed accordingly. The student will not be allowed to participate in any CCA until equipment is returned or paid for.

E. Travel

Any student traveling to or from an away site will travel with the rest of his/her group via school transportation. Exceptions may be made with prior approval from the BA, director/advisor or coach. Parental notes or witnessed parent verbal approval must accompany any exception.

F. Sportsmanship/Citizenship

An individual who is a member of any activity is expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship/ citizenship including proper respect for coaches, teachers, officials, fellow activity members and school property. Failure to exhibit good citizenship may result in removal from the activity. Determination of this may be made by the BA or respective activity director/coach.

It is the responsibility of the entire RSU community and the public to exhibit good sportsmanship/ citizenship during CCA events. Behavior such as booing, jeering, applauding errors, using profane language, throwing objects, and harassing officials are some actions which reflect poor sportsmanship/citizenship and will not be tolerated. Students are expected to treat visiting teams, fans and game officials in a manner which will reflect favorably upon RSU and the communities.

G. Grooming

RSU students are expected to be groomed and dressed appropriately for any RSU sponsored activity. The activity director/coach will determine what is to be appropriate for each function.

H. Commitment and Responsibility

Any student who is part of an RSU CCA must recognize his/her commitment and responsibility to that program. Students should, by some method, notify the activity director/coach by the end of the school day if he/she will be late or absent. More than one unexcused absence from the program's activities will result in immediate dismissal from the activity.

Generally, a student who is injured is still expected to attend all practices, performances and/or games. Exceptions may be made by the activity director/coach.

I. Change of Program

No participant may move from one CCA to another once it has been in progress for two weeks, except under unusual and necessary circumstances. This determination will be made by the BA. Anyone dismissed from CCA for disciplinary reasons will not be allowed to participate in another CCA during that season.

In the case of a CCA which does not involve a specified season, a determination will be made by the BA. If an advisor is approached by a student requesting to change activities during the season, he/she is to notify the BA as soon as feasible.

J. Outside Teams

Students may participate in non-RSU programs/activities during the regular season, provided that these activities do not interfere with their school program, which must always take priority.

K. School Attendance

Participants in any CCA are expected to arrive on time and attend a full day of school in order to participate in a CCA's event. If the student is absent from school due to an excused, planned absence (doctor appointment, funeral, etc.), it is that student's responsibility to notify the main office and the respective activity director/coach **in advance** of the planned absence. Failure to do so may result in exclusion from involvement in any CCA that day. (Hair appointments, shopping excursions and babysitting are not excused absences!)

Students who are absent due to illness or who must be dismissed from school due to illness may not participate in any CCA that day. Any exceptions will be approved only by the BA.

L. Possession or Use of Tobacco, Alcohol or Drugs:

Refer to Policies:

ADC – Tobacco Use,
JICG – Student Tobacco Use and/or Possession
JICH – Chemical Health.

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