



PHILOSOPHY OF CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Regional School Unit-24 (RSU) Board (RSUB) recognizes the value of co-curricular activities (CCA) as an integral part of the RSU educational program.

The RSUB believes that participation in RSU CCA's provide a significant learning experience as well as the opportunity for personal growth. The lessons learned in CCA's are closely related to classroom learning, as both support the Guiding Principles of Maine's System of Learning Results. In practice, as well in competitions, students learn skills, strategies, relationships, leadership, self-discipline and responsibility. They also learn the importance of setting goals for themselves and their group, and the planning and dedication required to achieve those goals, as well as the self-control required when their goals are not reached. Through this dedication, they can develop positive habits, which include exercise, good nutrition, as well as gain a sense of belonging and build the self-confidence needed to be successful in their lives rather their activity wins or loses.

Based on these beliefs, it is the RSUB's intent that the RSU offer students the opportunity to experience educationally sound CCA's, based on grade level, ability, and desire to participate.

It is also the intent of the RSUB that all RSU CCA's be designed to serve the needs of students in the following manner:

1. High School programs:
 - a. Designed to serve students who have shown they are developmentally ready for intensive interscholastic competition and/or performances.
 - b. Provide students a learning experience in healthy competition, good sportsmanship, integrity, principles of good citizenship, as well as efficient use of their time.
 - c. Offer various positions, as applicable within the particular program, so students with various skills and abilities may become a part of the program.(i.e. stagehands, managers, etc.)
 - d. Expand programs to include clubs, JV's, extra groups, intramurals, etc. as feasible, to allow and encourage as much participation as possible.
 - e. Strive to win, but sometimes to lose, but to do both always with good sportsmanship and dignity.

2. Grade School programs:
 - a. Designed to serve students that are developing skills, coordination, and abilities at the pre-teen/teen age level.
 - b. Provide an introduction to the various activities students may participate in at high school and beyond.
 - c. Provide fundamental skill instruction while encouraging students to always do their best. Emphasis will be placed on health and safety, good sportsmanship, citizenship, and the ability to cope with both winning and losing.
 - d. Provide the opportunity for all students to participate, regardless of their ability.
 - e. Expand the available activities as costs, time, coaches/advisors and/or facilities allow, introducing more students to more opportunities.
 - f. Clubs and/or intramurals can/do/must teach these same lessons.

The RSUB is responsible for approving RSU sponsorship of all CCA's. The superintendent shall be responsible for making recommendations concerning the approval of new, and/or modification or elimination of existing, CCA's. The RSUB may articulate, through Policy or a vote, criteria to be considered in decision-making, or may delegate the responsibility for developing such criteria to the superintendent.

NOTE: The RSUB does NOT endorse any CCA that does not provide for "winners and losers", as winning and/or losing is a way of life and we are preparing students to become good citizens throughout their lifetime, and feel this philosophy is required to start them on their journey.

Cross Reference: JJIB – Sponsorship and evaluation of athletic programs.
JJIBA – Hiring and Evaluation of coaches
JJIBB – Sportsmanship
JKA – Relations with Booster Groups.

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