

Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Co-Curricular Activities
Code	122
Status	Active
Adopted	October 6, 2021

### **Purpose**

The Joint Operating Committee believes that the school's goals and objectives are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular curricular program of the school. The Joint Operating Committee strongly supports vocational student organizations.

### **Definition**

For purposes of this policy, **co-curricular activities** shall be those programs that are sponsored or approved by the Joint Operating Committee; are conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day; are marked by student participation in the processes of initiation, planning, organizing, and execution; and are equally available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate.[1]

### **Authority**

The Joint Operating Committee shall make the facilities, supplies and equipment of the school available and shall assign staff members for the support of co-curricular activities for students. Such availability and assignment shall be in accordance with the Equal Access Act.[2][3][4][5][6]

Any co-curricular activity shall be considered to be under the sponsorship of the Joint Operating Committee when it has been approved by the Joint Operating Committee on recommendation of the Administrative Director.

The Joint Operating Committee shall maintain the program of co-curricular activities at no cost to participating students, except that the Joint Operating Committee's responsibility for provision of supplies shall carry the same exemptions as stated in the policy on regular school supplies.[7]

Where eligibility requirements are necessary or desirable, the Joint Operating Committee shall be informed and must approve the establishment of eligibility standards before they are operable.

### **Off-Campus Activities**

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would otherwise violate the Code of Student Conduct if any of the following circumstances exist:[8]

1. The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from the school or a school-sponsored activity, whether or not via school furnished transportation.
2. The student is a member of a co-curricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.
3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.

4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at the school or a school-sponsored activity, for example, a transaction conducted outside of the school pursuant to an agreement made in the school, that would violate the Code of Student Conduct if conducted in the school.
5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.
6. There is otherwise a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at the school or school-sponsored activities.

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Administrative Director or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement the co-curricular activities program.

### **Guidelines**

Guidelines shall ensure that the program of co-curricular activities:

1. Assesses the needs and interests of and is responsive to students.
2. Ensures provision of competent guidance and supervision by staff.
3. Guards against exploitation of students.
4. Provides a variety of experiences and diversity of organizational models.
5. Provides for continuing evaluation of the program and its components.
6. Ensures that all co-curricular activities are open to all students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities open to them.[\[1\]](#)[\[9\]](#)

### **Equal Access Act**

The school shall provide secondary students the opportunity for noncurriculum-related student groups to meet on the school premises during noninstructional time for the purpose of conducting a meeting within the limited open forum on the basis of religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. Such meetings must be voluntary, student-initiated, and not sponsored in any way by the school, its agents or employees.[\[2\]](#)

The meetings cannot materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the educational activities in the school.

The Administrative Director or designee shall establish the length of sessions, number per week, and other limitations deemed reasonably necessary.

The school retains the authority to maintain order and discipline on school premises in order to protect the well-being of students and employees and to ensure that student attendance at such meetings is voluntary.

Legal

1. 22 PA Code 12.1
2. 20 U.S.C. 4071 et seq
3. 24 P.S. 1850.1
4. 24 P.S. 511
5. Pol. 103
6. Pol. 103.1
7. Pol. 110
8. Pol. 218
9. 22 PA Code 12.4