

INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION

The Holmdel Township Board of Education considers all competitive extracurricular activities -- academic, artistic and athletic -- an integral part of the total educational program. Competitive activities shall be under the same administration and control as the rest of the school program and closely articulated with it.

Competitive activities can provide pupils with valuable experiences and opportunities. In this district, the emphasis in any competition shall be on providing such experiences and opportunities rather than on producing winning teams or providing entertainment. Practice for or performance in any competitive event shall not interfere with the regular educational program.

The Board shall approve all proposed interscholastic competition, either as a schedule or as a discrete event, whichever is appropriate. The Board must approve membership in any leagues, associations and conferences, and any agreements with other schools for a series of games or events. Contests of any kind between and among the schools of the district shall be approved by the Superintendent.

The Board shall appoint coaches, advisors, physicians and other necessary supervisory personnel upon recommendation of the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall also ensure that training programs/regulations are developed for all extracurricular athletic activities and that all physical facilities involved in any competition in which district schools take part shall be adequate, safe and sanitary.

Public recognition shall be given to participants in academic or artistic competitions in the same measure as to athletic competitors. The district's affirmative action resolution and plan for school and classroom practices shall apply to determining eligibility for competition, approval of each competitive activity in which pupils officially represent the district, and district expenditure to provide facilities and coaches.

Parental Consent

Pupils may participate in a school-sponsored physical activity outside the regular physical education curriculum only if a signed consent form is submitted to the designated administrator from a parent/guardian naming the activity and acknowledging when the activity may be hazardous. In addition, the *Application for Participation in Interscholastic Athletics*, contained in Exhibit 1 of the policy, will delineate the academic, attendance, behavioral and other guidelines which must be followed by students who participate in interscholastic athletics **and be signed** by both the student and his/her parent or guardian.

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File Code: 6145.2

Academic Eligibility

Academic eligibility for interscholastic competition at the beginning of the school year for all grades, nine through 12, means successful completion of the previous year's requirements, with no failures. In addition, the previous year's requirements are:

- A. For grade 10, completion in grade nine of at least 1/4 of the credits required to receive a Holmdel Township School District state-endorsed high school diploma with a minimum grade point average of 2.0;
- B. For grade 11, completion in grade 10 of the same requirements as in A above; and
- C. For grade 12, completion in grade 11 of the same requirements as in A above.

Continuing academic eligibility requires maintenance of passing grades in all subjects during the current year, and in grade 12 taking enough course credits to complete the high school graduation requirement by the end of the academic year.

A pupil who begins the year without academic eligibility, who maintains a passing grade in every subject and a minimum grade point average of 2.0, may request consideration to participate in extracurricular activities at the beginning of the second semester.

It should be noted that while the academic eligibility of high school students is governed by N.J.S.I.A.A rules for athletic competition as well as the policy of the Holmdel Township Board of Education, all students at the William R. Satz School wishing to participate in the sports program are governed solely by Board policy. Satz students must maintain a 2.0 GPA or "C" average or better in all academic subjects with no more than two failing subject areas to be eligible or to try out for an activity. A student, once eligible and involved in the activity, must maintain a 2.0 GPA or "C" average throughout the entire length of the activity.

Attendance Standards

Attendance standards shall be those set in policy 5113 Absence and Excuses. In particular, a pupil shall not participate in a performance, exhibition, practice or athletic event unless he/she has been present in school that day or has been absent for an excused reason other than for sickness.

Disciplinary Standards

Disciplinary standards are based on board policies 5114 Suspension and Expulsion and 5131 Conduct/Discipline. Pupils on disciplinary probation or suspension may not practice, perform or compete. The Superintendent and the Building Principal shall decide at the end of a probation or suspension whether the pupil may return to practice and competition.

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Physical Eligibility

All pupils in grades six through 12 participating in interscholastic athletics must be given a medical examination within 365 days prior to the first practice session, with a recertification with parent/guardian signature for every sport. The medical examination shall be given by the district's medical officer or designated team doctor. Examinations shall be made available on an annual basis in accordance with school procedures. If requested by the parents/guardians, the medical examination may be given by another licensed physician, but the results must be reported to the district medical officer or designated team doctor on a form furnished by the district and, as a minimum, include the content adopted by the Board. In the event a private physician is used, the medical examination shall not be at the expense of the Holmdel Township Board of Education.

The parents/guardians shall be sent written notification signed by the examining physician testifying to the pupil's physical fitness to participate in athletics. The reason for the physician's disapproval of the pupil's participation shall be included in the notification. The health findings of the medical examination for participation in athletics shall be made part of the general health examination record.

The Superintendent shall present to the Board for adoption procedures for administration of the required medical examination. The procedures for the medical examination to determine the fitness of a pupil to participate in athletics shall include a form for a medical history to be filled out and returned by a parent/guardian and a form to be filled out by the examining physician.

The criteria for physical eligibility for interscholastic competition shall be identified by the district's Health Council in accordance with state law and N.J.S.I.A.A. guidelines. The criteria shall be contained in the exhibits which accompany this policy:

- Exhibit 2: Pre-participation Physical Examination
- Exhibit 3: Pre-participation Physical Evaluation
- Exhibit 4: Interim Assessment

Special Education Pupils

To participate in interscholastic competition, special education pupils must meet the same requirements listed above in conformity with their individual educational programs.

Insurance

The Board will cover each participant in interscholastic sports with insurance coverage as recommended by the current insurance carrier. All other interscholastic activities shall be covered at the recommendation of the insurance advisor and Superintendent.

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Parents/guardians shall be strongly encouraged to participate in the supplemental pupil accident insurance program offered by the Board.

Source: Regular Board Meeting

Date: August 20, 1986

Revised: May 28, 1997

Legal References:

<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:11-3	Voluntary associations regulating conduct of student activities; membership; rules and regulations; appeals
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:26-2.1 <u>et al.</u>	Supervisory certificate required for appointment as director of athletics
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:36-20	Discrimination; prohibition
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:40A-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Substance abuse
<u>See particularly:</u>		
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:40A-9, -10, -11	
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:42-2	School orchestra not to complete with civilian musicians; exceptions
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:43-1	Accident insurance for pupils authorized
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:4-1.3(a), -1.5(f)	Policy development ...
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:8-4.10	State and Federally mandated programs and services
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:29-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Health, safety and physical education
<u>See particularly:</u>		
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:29-1.3(a)1, -3.3, -3.4	
20 <u>U.S.C.A.</u> 1681 - Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972		
29 <u>U.S.C.A.</u> 794 <u>et seq.</u> - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973		
New Jersey State Board of Education Resolution, May 2, 1984, requires local boards to adopt policy on academic eligibility for extracurricular activities. Must address grade point average, attendance requirements and course failure rate.		

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NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts
(June 1993)

Possible

Cross References:

*1322	Contests for pupils
1500	Relations between area, county, state, regional and national associations and the district
*3250	Income from fees, fines, charges
*3453	School activity funds
3530	Insurance management
*3541.31	Privately owned vehicles
4143	Extra pay for extra work
5113	Absences and excuses
5114	Suspension and expulsion
*5125	Pupil records
*5126	Awards for achievement
*5131	Conduct/discipline
*5141.1	Accidents
*5141.3	Health examinations and immunizations
5143	Insurance
*5145.4	Equal educational opportunity
*6121	Nondiscrimination/affirmative action
*6142.4	Physical education and health
*6145	Extracurricular activities
6145.4	Public performances and exhibitions
*6146	Graduation requirements
*6147.1	Evaluation of individual student performance

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.

