



POLICY 5.60

5-D Board discussion of the proposed revisions to Policy 5.60, entitled “Eligibility for Participation in K-12 Extracurricular Activities.”

[Contacts: Dianne Howard, 434-8414 (regarding the insurance portion of subsection (2)(c)); and Yetta Greene, 963-3872 & Kevin Sterling, 434-7450 (regarding the activities portions).]

[Development] **(discussion only)**

- The Board began discussion of this proposed revision on January 13, 2003, but time did not permit concluding the discussion. The Policy was later tabled.
- By request of the Risk Management and Employee Benefits Department, this current version adds the requirement that students pay for their insurance as a prerequisite to participation in extracurricular activities, and encourages donors such as booster clubs to assist students who have difficulty covering the cost of insurance. See lines 14-17.
- An ad hoc committee including principals, an area superintendent, athletics office representatives, and a Student Services representative participated in portions of the revision drafting process in late 2002. This year, some remaining members of that committee assisted with updating the recommended revisions.
- This revision also incorporates some content from Directive D-5.60, such as regarding reporting of data on equitable participation.
- The eligibility requirements for middle school at lines 77-98 were reproduced from the current Middle School Student Progression Plan, consistent with the Palm Beach County Middle School Activities Association (PBCMSAA).

POLICY 5.60

ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN K-12 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 1 1. **Purpose.--** Extracurricular activities are intended to supplement the regular curriculum
2 of the school and to provide enrichment opportunities for students. As important as
3 extracurricular activities are for growth and development of each student, they must
4 remain supplemental to the student's learning and mastery of the basic skills in the
5 regular curriculum.
- 6 2. **Equitable Participation**
 - 7 a. Principals shall select faculty advisors, directors, coaches, sponsors, and staff who
8 are diverse in racial, ethnic, and gender composition.
 - 9 b. Students shall not be excluded from nor denied positions of leadership in any
10 extracurricular activity due to race, ~~ethnicity~~ national origin, disabilities, ~~gender~~ sex,
11 marital status, or limited English proficiency, as required by the Florida Education
12 Equity Act.
 - 13 c. In general, Sstudents shall not be denied participation in any activity because of
14 inability to pay for expenses related to the activity; however, students may be
15 required to pay for insurance as a prerequisite to participation in extracurricular
16 activities, and donors such as booster clubs may be encouraged to assist with
17 insurance expenses for students who have difficulty covering the cost.
 - 18 d. Pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 1006.28(3)(b) and Policy 8.1225, a student will be
19 suspended from participation in extracurricular activities while owing an obligation
20 after reasonable collection efforts by the principal, for lost, destroyed, or
21 unnecessarily-damaged instructional materials, unless the student elects to
22 perform community service hours to satisfy the obligation pursuant to Policy
23 8.1225.
 - 24 e. The Superintendent or designee shall monitor fair and equitable access to
25 extracurricular activities for all students as follows:
 - 26 i. **STUDENTS IN GRADES K-5.--** Elementary school principals will annually
27 complete a survey of extracurricular activities (instructional and non-
28 instructional). This survey will be disaggregated by total number of
29 participants, participants with Exceptional Student Education (ESE), Limited
30 English Proficient (LEP) students, ~~gender~~ sex, and race (African-American,
31 Hispanic, White and Other).
 - 32 ii. **STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-8.--** The Superintendent shall establish procedures
33 to ensure that the eligibility Bylaws of the Palm Beach County Middle School
34 Athletic Activities Association ("PBCMSAA") are enforced. The middle school
35 principals will annually complete a survey of ten extracurricular activities

(instructional and non-instructional) designated by the Superintendent. This survey will be disaggregated by number of participants, participants with Exceptional Student Education (ESE), Limited English Proficient (LEP) students, ~~gender~~ sex, and race (African-American, Hispanic, White and Other).

- iii. ~~STUDENTS IN GRADES 9-12.-- The Superintendent shall establish procedures to ensure that t~~The eligibility Bylaws of the Florida High School Activities Association ("FHSAA") ~~are~~ shall be enforced. The high school principals will annually complete a survey of ten (10) extracurricular activities (instructional and non-instructional) designated by the Superintendent. This survey will be disaggregated by number of participants, ~~gender~~ sex, and race (African-American, Hispanic, White and Other).

Each school's survey will be submitted by May 30 to the appropriate Area ~~Executive Director~~ Area Superintendent, based on data from the Student Activity Screen (A-26).

- f. By June 15 of each school year, Area Superintendents will submit the survey results to the Superintendent, along with a written action plan for removing any apparent barriers to diversity in staff and student participation in extracurricular activities. If the level of participation of any such category of students is substantially different from the enrollment proportion of that category, it should be supportable by a nondiscriminatory explanation.

- g. By June 30 of each year, the Superintendent shall submit a report consistent with SBER 6A-19.004 to the Board regarding participation in extracurricular activities at the elementary, middle, and senior high school levels. This report shall be based on the Area Superintendent's reports and data and include:

- i. District-wide and individual school information regarding data on faculty advisors, directors, coaches, and sponsors by race, ~~ethnicity~~ national origin, ~~gender~~ sex, LEP, and ESE;
- ii. Data on participation in selected activities by race, ~~ethnicity~~ national origin, ~~gender~~ sex, LEP, and ESE;
- iii. Identification of any barriers regarding equitable selection of diverse faculty advisors, directors, coaches, and sponsors;
- iv. Identification of any barriers to equitable participation in extracurricular activities by students of diverse populations;
- v. Identification of any inequities in extracurricular activities offered at schools;
- vi. Recommendations for removing any barrier to equitable students participating in extracurricular activities;

73 vii. Recommendations for removing any inequity regarding extracurricular
74 activities offered at schools; and

75 viii. Recommendations for ensuring diversity of faculty advisors, directors,
76 coaches, and sponsors.

77 **3. Scholastic Eligibility in Middle School.--** As stated in the Student Progression Plan
78 and consistent with the Bylaws of the PBCMSAA, the scholastic eligibility requirements
79 for middle-school students to participate in interscholastic extracurricular student
80 activities are as follows:

81 a. Eligibility for each middle-school student shall be limited to three (3) consecutive
82 years from the time the student first enters grade 6.

83 b. To be eligible to compete in interscholastic athletic competition for the first grading
84 period, a sixth-grade student must be a bona fide student in the school which
85 he/she represents (unless in home education or a charter-school student as
86 explained in Section (7) below); must have been regularly promoted from the fifth
87 grade; and must be carrying a normal class load and doing satisfactory classroom
88 work with a satisfactory conduct record.

89 c. Any middle-school student who has been administratively placed will be ineligible
90 for the first nine (9) weeks of the placement.

91 d. Failure in more than one (1) subject during a given nine-week grading period shall
92 cause a student to be ineligible for practice and competition during the following
93 nine-week grading period. In addition, a student must maintain a grade point
94 average of 2.0 as well as acceptable conduct as determined by the principal.

95 e. A middle-school student will lose eligibility upon reaching the age of 15 years prior
96 to September 1 of the current school year.

97 f. To participate in the first semester of grade 9, a student must have been promoted
98 from grade 8 during the immediately-preceding school year.

99 **4. Scholastic Eligibility in High School.--** As stated in 1006.15(3)(a), the minimum
100 requirements for scholastic eligibility for high school students to participate in
101 interscholastic extracurricular student activities, are as follows:

102 a. Maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in
103 the previous semester or a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0
104 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required for high school graduation by s.
105 1003.43(1).

106 b. Execute and fulfill the requirements of an academic performance contract between
107 the student, the district school board, the appropriate governing association, and
108 the student's parents, if the student's cumulative grade point average falls below
109 2.0, or its equivalent, on a 4.0 scale in the courses required by s. 1003.43(1) or, for
110 students who entered the 9th grade prior to the 1997-1998 school year, if the

111 student's cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, or its
112 equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1003.43(1) that are taken after July 1,
113 1997. At a minimum, the contract must require that the student attend summer
114 school, or its graded equivalent, between grades 9 and 10 or grades 10 and 11, as
115 necessary.

116 c. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale, or its
117 equivalent, in the courses required by s. 1003.43(1) during the junior or senior year.

118 d. A student who is eligible at the beginning of a semester shall be eligible during the
119 remainder of the semester, except for lack of attendance, improper conduct or
120 other valid reasons which may cause the principal to declare the student ineligible
121 before the end of the semester.

122 e. The student must maintain satisfactory conduct, as determined by the principal. (In
123 any event, if the student is convicted of, or is found to have committed, a felony or
124 a delinquent act which would have been a felony if committed by an adult,
125 regardless of whether adjudication is withheld, the student should be disqualified
126 from participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities.)

127 5. **General Eligibility Requirements**

128 a. Middle school principals are responsible for ensuring that each middle school
129 participant in interscholastic activities abides by the PBCMSAA Bylaws and/or the
130 Florida School Music Association ("FSMA") Bylaws. Eligibility is established at the
131 first school attended as assigned by Student Services.

132 b. High school principals are responsible for ensuring that each high school
133 participant in interscholastic activities, as a representative of his/her school, is
134 eligible to participate under the FHSAA rules. Eligibility is established at the first
135 school attended as assigned by Student Services. The principal also has the
136 responsibility of reporting any discovered eligibility irregularities to the FHSAA, the
137 Area Superintendent, and the Superintendent/designee.

138 c. In addition to the FHSAA or PBCMSAA Bylaws, the following rules shall apply to
139 such eligibility:

140 i. ~~iv. The student shall be eligible in the school in which he or she first enrolled~~
141 ~~each school year. The student shall be eligible in that school so long as he or~~
142 ~~she remains enrolled in that school. No student may participate in the~~
143 ~~interscholastic activities of a school other than the school to which the student~~
144 ~~was first assigned for a given school year **UNLESS** the student:~~

145 A. actually and legitimately lives resides in the attendance area of the
146 school; or

147 B. has a transfer approved by the ~~Superintendent's Transfer Review~~
148 ~~Committee~~ Student Services; or

- 149 C. has been admitted to a magnet/choice school or program pursuant to the
150 magnet/choice application process (provided that the student shall
151 become ineligible for sports at the magnet/choice school if he/she drops
152 out of, or is removed from, the magnet/choice program); or
- 153 D. transferred to the new school under the Opportunity Scholarships
154 Program or the McKay Scholarships for Children with Disabilities
155 Program under Fla. Stat. §§ 1002.38 or 1002.39; or
- 156 E. was administratively placed.
- 157 ii. Principals shall annually review reassignments.
- 158 iii. Any student who is found to have falsified eligibility information shall be
159 permanently deemed ineligible to compete in any public school within the
160 School District of Palm Beach County for one calendar year from the date the
161 falsification is discovered.
- 162 iv. The Superintendent, Area Superintendent, principal, coach, or activity sponsor
163 may raise questions of eligibility at any time. Any question of eligibility shall be
164 presented to the principal of the school where the student's eligibility is being
165 questioned.
- 166 d. ~~a.~~ An Interscholastic Eligibility Appeals Committee (IEAC) shall be established to
167 review eligibility questions which cannot otherwise be resolved. Neither this Policy
168 nor any recommendation from the committee shall be construed as waiving
169 applicable FHSAA or PBCMSAA Bylaws or regulations.
- 170 6. **Clubs and Non-Sports Activities.** The minimum scholastic standards for eligibility for
171 competitive interscholastic participation in extracurricular clubs and competitive
172 interscholastic non-sports activities will be the same GPA required for sports
173 participation by Fla. Stat. 1006.15(3)(a), the FHSAA, and the PBCMSAA, determined by
174 the Superintendent or designee and shall be consistently applied to all schools.
- 175 7. **Home Education and Charter School Students.--** Home educated students are
176 governed by the same eligibility regulations as all public school students. "An individual
177 home education student is eligible to participate at the same public school to which the
178 student would be assigned according to district school board attendance area policies or
179 which the student could choose to attend pursuant to district or interdistrict controlled
180 open enrollment provisions, . . . in the interscholastic extracurricular activities of that
181 school," subject to the conditions in Fla. Stat. § 1006.15(3)(c). "An individual charter
182 school student . . . is eligible to participate at the public school to which the student be
183 assigned according to district school board attendance area policies or which the
184 student could choose to attend, pursuant to district or interdistrict controlled open-
185 enrollment provisions, in any interscholastic extracurricular activity of that school, unless
186 such activity is provided by the student's charter school," subject to the conditions set
187 forth in Fla. Stat. § 1006.15(3)(d).

188 8. **Recruiting Prohibited.--** School District employees are prohibited from recruiting
 189 students from other schools for any athletic activity, either directly or indirectly, and may
 190 be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination for violation of this
 191 policy. Any principal who knowingly allows or encourages recruitment from other
 192 schools will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Any
 193 employee who knowingly and willfully withholds information regarding eligibility when
 194 questioned by his/her superiors will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including
 195 termination.

196
 197 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Sections §§ 1001.41(2) 230.22(2); 1006.15, Fla. Stat..

198 LAWS IMPLEMENTED: Section §§ 1000.05; 1001.41(1), (2) 230.22(2); 1006.15;
 199 1006.20 232.60; 232.61; 232.62; 232.63; 232.64; 232.65;
 200 232.66; 232.67; 232.68; 232.69]; 1006.28(3)(b), Fla. Stat.

201 STATE BOARD RULES

202 SUPPLEMENTED: 6A-19.002, 6A-19.004, F.A.C.

203
 204 HISTORY: 5141; 2/28/72; 8/16/78; 4/4/79; 5/6/87; 8/17/88; 12/2/92; 2/18/98; / /04
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Legal Signoff:

The Legal Department has reviewed the proposed revision to Policy 5.60 and finds it legally sufficient for development by the Board.

Attorney

Date