

ATTENDANCE, DEPORTMENT AND ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Eligibility for Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities

The Patchogue-Medford School District encourages all students to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities. We recognize that these activities complement and supplement the academic programs of our middle and high schools; however, such participation is a privilege, not a right. They provide students an opportunity to explore an area of interest and to develop specific skills. In addition to providing students an opportunity for their own enrichment and development, extracurricular and interscholastic activities add to the total school district's visibility as well as the community's involvement in our schools. They permit and encourage the adults of the community, as well as other community organizations, to participate and view the Patchogue-Medford District with pride.

The Board of Education has the authority to establish reasonable standards as prerequisites for eligibility for extracurricular and interscholastic activities. These standards apply to entry qualifications as well as to continued participation in such activities. Advisors/Coaches must disseminate a copy of the expected standards of conduct to all students and parents at the start of each school year, and participating students should be individually informed of the application and scope of such standards.

- Students must be reminded that they represent their school and their school district through their participation in these activities. They are role models for fellow students and, therefore, must act responsibly in their roles as students and participants

Eligibility and continued participation in extracurricular and interscholastic activities are a privilege extended to students, as opposed to a right, and the behavioral standards sets forth in the district Code of Conduct apply to all students participating in any extracurricular or interscholastic activity. All student participants will be informed that they have the obligation to act in a responsible manner because of the leadership roles they play in the school environment and as a result are expected to adhere to policies accordingly.

Attendance and Deportment

Participation in extra-curricular activities sponsored by the school district is a privilege. To be eligible, students in grades 7-12 must demonstrate good attendance and an acceptable level of good conduct while in attendance during the school day or at school functions. Participation in extra-curricular activities will be limited to those students who continuously maintain satisfactory attendance and satisfactory deportment as outlined in the Patchogue-Medford School

District Code of Conduct. County, state, or national governing bodies of athletics, music and co-curricular activities will complement or supersede the standards.

Attendance Requirement:

Advisors/coaches will adhere to the minimum school attendance requirements included in the Patchogue-Medford School District's Comprehensive Attendance Policy.

No student may participate in an extracurricular or interscholastic activity, practice, scrimmage or contest on a day that the student is absent from school unless a school administrator grants special dispensation to the student for the absence.

- Students must be present in school by period 5 on the day of the activity to be eligible for participation.
- Students may not participate in extracurricular activities on the day of a suspension.

Deportment Requirement

A student who is suspended (either in- or out-of-school) will become ineligible for participation on **athletic teams or extracurricular activities** **once six (6) days of suspension** have been accumulated in a given **semesterschool year**. The school principal will send a letter to the parent of a child who has been suspended. In that letter, there will be a statement about this policy.

Coaches, advisors, and administration reserve the right to remove students from participation in extracurricular activities because of disciplinary infractions. Such removal may be temporary or permanent, depending on the severity of the infraction and the discretion of the relevant authority figures.

There is no distinction between in-school and out-of-school suspensions. ~~If a student suspension is split between the end of the first semester [first twenty (20) weeks] and the beginning of the second semester [second twenty (20) weeks], the accumulated days of the said suspension will be accrued in each of the semesters in which the suspension is served.~~

Appeals Process:

- Students and parents/guardians have the right to submit an appeal regarding their eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities.
- Appeals must be submitted in writing to the building principal.
- The administration will convene a committee to review the appeal and respond in writing within a reasonable timeframe. The committee will be made up of the following representatives: building principal or designee, academic director, school counselor, and when possible, the coach/advisor.

Academic Extracurricular Eligibility

~~The general educational philosophy of the Patchogue Medford School District is based on the belief that all students should pass all their subjects. To that end, we urge all members of the school community (teachers and parents alike) to do their utmost to encourage all students to adopt this goal as a minimum standard. The district also believes that all students should be~~

~~encouraged to participate on athletic teams while still maintaining good grades, but academics must take a priority.~~

~~All seventh grade students will be exempt from the policy. The rationale for this recommendation is that seventh grade is the first year students are eligible for a broad-based program including club activities, intramural activities and interscholastic sports. It is the committee's belief that participation in extracurricular activities at the beginning of a student's secondary school career could help to develop a more positive attitude in those students who are not fulfilling their academic responsibilities. Once students develop an interest and enjoyment from extracurricular activities, then the policy would have a greater effect on improving their academic performance.~~

~~Therefore, eligibility for participation on athletic teams is limited to students who maintain passing grades in all subjects or who maintain an overall average of 70. **Eligibility in any given quarter is determined by the results of the previous quarter.**~~

~~**Athletic team participation** is determined according to the following guidelines:~~

- ~~a. **Full Year Courses** eligibility for the succeeding quarter will be determined after the end of marking periods 1, 2, 3 and the final course grade.~~

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Attendance, Deportment and Academic Eligibility for Participation in Extracurricular Activities (Continued) Academic Extracurricular Eligibility

- ~~b. **Half Year Courses** eligibility for the succeeding quarter will be determined after the end of the marking periods 1 or 3 and the final course grade.~~

For example:

~~To be eligible to play a fall sport such as soccer or football, students must have received a passing final grade in all subjects taken during the fourth marking period of the previous school year. Failed courses may be made up by successfully completing and passing approved courses during the summer.~~

~~To be eligible for a spring sport, students must have passed all courses in the second marking period, for full year courses, or pass a half year course because tryouts start during the third marking period.~~

~~**This includes all athletic team participation activities, events, and any recreational trips associated with them.**~~

~~(Students can always file an appeal as indicated below to attend the proms even though they have six (6) days or more suspensions for extenuating circumstances.)~~

~~See the policy administrative regulations for the appeals procedure.~~

Determination of Academic Eligibility

A student with two or more failures will be placed on probation for a five (5) week period during which time the student will remain academically eligible to participate in co-curricular activities.

1. Academic eligibility for fall activities shall be determined by the fourth quarter report card issued the previous June, the first quarter progress report issued in October and/or the first quarter report card issued in November.

2. Students with **two or more failures** for the fourth quarter report card will be placed on probation for a five (5) week period at the beginning of the fall semester.

3. Students earning passing marks during the summer for the failed course(s) will not be subject to the probationary period in the fall.

4. Academic eligibility for winter activities shall be determined by the first quarter progress report issued in October, the first quarter report card issued in November, the second quarter progress report issued in December and/or the second quarter report card issued in February.

5. For the Middle School Winter II Sports Season, eligibility will be determined by the first quarter report card issued in November and/or the second quarter progress report issued in December.

6. Academic eligibility for spring activities shall be determined by the second quarter report card issued in February, the third quarter progress report issued in March, the third quarter report card issued in April and/or the progress report issued in May.

Any student who was deemed ineligible for activities at the end of a school year and either did not attend summer school or failed summer school, will begin the fall semester on probation.

An Academic Support Plan shall be developed with the assistance of guidance, administration, and the eligibility committee. Verbal and/or written notification will be made to parents of students placed on academic probation once the applicable progress report and/or report card has been distributed.

Probationary status shall continue until a student is passing all course subjects as indicated by the quarterly report card only. Further, at the completion of the first five (5) week cycle of probation, if a student is still failing two or more subjects, the student will become ineligible for

participation in extracurricular and interscholastic activities and will be monitored accordingly. If the student continues to fail two or more subjects after the second five (5) week cycle, the student will be disqualified from further participation.

An Academic Support Plan shall consist of:

1. Regular attendance and participation in before- and/or after-school support
2. School counselor support
3. Weekly Eligibility Reports for each subject that should include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Weekly class attendance
 - b. Weekly academic average
 - c. Quarterly academic average to-date
 - d. Homework assignments given and completed
 - e. Teacher comments on weekly performance
 - f. Extra help/tutoring/mentoring, attendance and participation

Weekly Eligibility Reports shall be sent home to parents on a weekly basis. Following the five (5) week period of ineligibility, if a student continues to fail any two or more subjects as indicated by the quarterly progress reports, the quarterly report card or the Weekly Eligibility Reports, the student will be disqualified from all activities. Notice of disqualification will be sent home to the parents of students by the Eligibility Committee. Disqualification shall continue if a student is failing two or more subjects, as indicated by the quarter progress report, the quarterly report card and/or the Weekly Eligibility Reports.

Interpretation of Policy

The following terms/definitions will be used regarding the interpretation of the Eligibility Policy:

- **Probation:** The student will be permitted to participate in the total activity but will be subject to review.
- **Ineligible:** The student will be excluded from all contests, performances and competitions for a period but is entitled to attend and participate in practices and meetings.

- **Disqualified:** The student will lose the privilege to participate in all extracurricular, co-curricular and interscholastic activities during the period imposed.

Process of Determining Eligibility Status

Students failing two or more courses will be identified by building administration at the conclusion of each period outlined in the policy. The students assigned school counselor will conduct an academic intervention meeting with the student. The Academic Support Plan will then be enacted, and it will be the responsibility of the student to complete his/her Eligibility Report on a weekly basis and return it to the appropriate school counselor. Students who fail to turn in their report weekly will be ineligible. The Eligibility Committee will reconvene at the appropriate time and the status of the student(s) under review will be determined accordingly.

Policy Adopted:

July 15, 1985

Policy Revised:

April 17, 1995

Policy Revised:

September 16, 1996

Policy Revised:

July 14, 1997

Policy Reviewed:

August 13, 2001

Policy Revised:

June 24, 2002

Policy Revised:

January 27, 2014

Policy Revised:

May 6, 2014

Policy Revised:

May 19, 2014

Policy Revised:

October 15, 2018

Policy Revised:

6145.6-R

Administrative Regulations

EXTRACURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY APPEAL PROCESS

General Directions and Guidelines

~~The educational philosophy of the Patchogue-Medford School district is based on the belief that all students should pass all of their subjects. In order to participate in extracurricular activities, a student must pass all subjects or maintain an overall average of 70. Students who do not meet these criteria may appeal.~~

~~Those appeals which indicate missing homework or assignments or unauthorized absences as the reason for failure WILL NOT be heard.~~

~~When filing an appeal, the following procedure must be followed:~~

- ~~1. An entire appeals packet must be completed within five school days after report cards are issued. **NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE FOR STUDENTS WHO MISS THE DEADLINE.**~~
- ~~2. Students will be notified of appeal hearing date and time. Parents are encouraged to attend the appeal hearing with their child.~~

~~Students will be notified of the committee's decision the next school day.~~

CHECKLIST OF FORMS NEEDED

~~Appeals will not be heard if all forms have not been completed.~~

~~_____Teacher Verification~~

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~~Administrative Regulations (Continued)
Extracurricular Eligibility Appeal Process (Continued)~~

TEACHER VERIFICATION FORM

Teacher's Name _____

Student's Name _____

Class _____ Period _____

PLEASE CIRCLE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE AND ADD INFORMATION WHERE REQUIRED.

I. REASONS(S) FOR FAILURE:

1. Absenteeism _____ NO _____ YES _____

How many times has the student been absent from your class this quarter?

2. Incomplete or Failing Work

Homework _____ Number of Assignments Missing _____

Missing _____ Failures _____

Quizzes _____

Tests _____

Projects/Papers/Labs _____

Other _____

3. Did student attend extra help? Yes _____ No _____ Number of Times _____

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Administrative Regulations (Continued)
Extracurricular Eligibility Appeal Process
Teacher Verification Form

H. PARENT/STUDENT COMMUNICATION

1. Types of Contact

~~_____ Yes _____ No~~

~~_____ A) Spoke to student. When?~~

~~_____ B) Spoke to parent. When?~~

~~_____ C) Negative interim report.~~

~~_____ D) Other.~~

2. Special Considerations

~~Are there any mitigating circumstances (which may be shared) that this committee should consider when reviewing this application?~~

~~This form will be picked up by student.~~

Date Submitted

Teacher's Signature

Revised: June 24, 2002

Revised: October 15, 2018

Removed: