

**STUDENT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY -
ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS**

Introduction

The Board supports extracurricular activities that supplement and enrich academic instruction, provide opportunities for social development, and encourage participation in clubs, athletics, performing groups and service to school and community.

Extracurricular activities include intramural and interscholastic athletics, performing groups, academic clubs and societies, as well as student government. A complete list of extracurricular activities shall be maintained by the Superintendent or designee and shall be included as part of the procedures for this policy as well as in the student handbooks at the high school and middle school levels.

Any middle school and high school student who meets the minimum standards of academic performance set by this policy is eligible for extracurricular activities. Individual extracurricular activities may require higher standards of academic performance in addition to any specific qualifications for the activity. A written copy of these additional requirements or rules shall be distributed to both the student participants and to the students’ parents or guardians. None of these rules or requirements shall contradict or supersede Board policy.

These additional rules or requirements shall be approved by the coach, the advisor or supervisor of the activity, and the school principal or designee. Violations of these rules may restrict or prohibit a student’s participation, such as not being able to participate in a performance, practice or game.

Academic Expectations – High School

To be eligible for extracurricular activities a high school student athlete and/or student participating in an activity with a contracted advisor must have, for the prior grading period, an overall “C-” average and have earned no more than one non-passing grade (F, NC, Incomplete, Fail) during that prior grading period. A student must be enrolled in a minimum of three courses for a grading period. The grades used to determine eligibility are outlined below:

	End Q1	End Q2	End Q3	End Q4
Quarter classes	Q1 only–final grade	Q2 only–final grade	Q3 only–final grade	Q4 only–final grade
Semester classes	S1 only-progress grade	S1 only-final grade	S2 only-progress grade	S2 only-final grade
FY classes	Progress grade	Progress grade	Progress grade	Final grade
Determines eligibility	Finish fall season Start winter season	Finish winter season Start spring season	Finish spring season	Start fall season

The effective date of eligibility is the date grade reports are distributed to students. These dates are determined by the Nashua School District Superintendent’s Office.

First year freshmen students are considered academically eligible for all athletic and extra-curricular activities that occur in the fall. Academic eligibility will not be verified for first year freshmen students until first quarter grade reports are distributed.

NOTES:

- An incomplete grade is considered a non-passing grade until all work is made up and the grade is changed from an incomplete to the final course grade. It is expected that students will make up all work as quickly as possible.
- An NC is considered a non-passing grade until any work is recovered and the course grade is changed.

Consequences – High School

A student who, during the prior grading period as defined above, did not maintain a “C-” overall average or received more than one non-passing grade (F, NC, Incomplete, Fail) is not eligible for extracurricular activities.

NOTE: If a student is academically ineligible during a try-out period of an extracurricular activity, it will be at the discretion of administration if the student may participate in a try-out period. This exception may only be made on a student’s first season or activity in which he/she is academically ineligible.

In the middle of an athletic season or an extracurricular activity:

Students who lose their eligibility based on NO CREDIT and are actively engaged in post-course recovery, may be reinstated to their team, if the grade is recovered within a reasonable amount of time. Refer to NSD Policy ILBAA-R Competency Assessment Regulations and Procedures.

Appeal of Academic Violations – High School**Prior to the start of an athletic season or an extracurricular activity:**

A student who has earned no more than one non-passing grade (only one F, NC, Incomplete, Fail) may appeal to the principal or designee for a waiver of these requirements by submitting a waiver application form found in JJJA-R. Upon receiving the waiver application form, the principal or designee shall convene a waiver board consisting of the student’s coach or activity advisor, and the athletic director/coordinator or student activities coordinator at the high school level.

This waiver board will determine whether extenuating circumstances contributed to the student’s academic difficulties and whether continued participation in the extracurricular activity is likely to result in continuing academic difficulties.

Waiver applications will only be reviewed prior to the start of a season or activity. It is to be understood that extenuating circumstances are rare, therefore students will only be eligible for one academic waiver during his/her high school career.

In the middle of an athletic season or an extracurricular activity:

Students who lose their eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities may not apply for an academic waiver mid-season or activity.

Academic Expectations – Middle School**Beginning of each school year:**

All middle school students will be considered academically eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities at the start of each new school year.

During a Season at Progress Report Time:

If a student earns more than one F on mid-trimester Progress Reports, he/she will become immediately ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities until grades have improved.

End of each trimester grading period:

A middle school student who earns more than one failing grade on his/her report card at the end of a trimester will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities. A student will regain eligibility for all extracurricular activities, excluding athletics, when the next trimester’s progress report grades are distributed if there are one or no failing grades. At progress report time, a student may or may not be allowed to participate depending on the length and end of an athletic season. The effective date of eligibility is the date grade reports are to be distributed as determined by the Nashua School District Superintendent’s Office.

Definitions

Participation in scholastic, interscholastic events, or extracurricular activities which includes practices, meetings, participation in scrimmages, competitions, performances, etc. It also includes travel to and from such events.

School Year: School year is defined as the first day of sanctioned school extracurricular activities, as set forth under the adopted Nashua School District calendar, through the last day of school of the academic year, or, if later, through the last sanctioned school extracurricular activity of the academic year in which the student in question participates (e.g., the NHIAA Decathlon, Heptathlon or similar sanctioned school extracurricular activity held after the last day of school).

Non-passing Grade: The following grades are all considered non-passing grades at the high school level: F, NC, Incomplete, Fail (refer to NSD Policy ILBAA-R Competency Assessment Regulations and Procedures). Only an F is considered non-passing at the middle school.

Additional Requirements for the Accompanying Procedures

In addition to any previous requirements, the procedures accompanying this policy will:

- Provide an Academic Waiver Application form.
- Provide a form for acknowledgement of extracurricular expectations.

Review

Procedures accompanying this policy will be reviewed by Administration prior to the start of the school year.

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R/Board Approved: 05/09/2016

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