

5560 A

Definitions – Student Activities

Regulation 5560 A

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Review Dates:

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this regulation is to establish the definitions of terms used in policies regarding student activities.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. “Co-curricular activities”.

1. “Co-curricular activities” means school sponsored and directed activities designed to provide opportunities for students to participate on an individual or group basis in school and public events for the improvement of skills. In addition, co-curricular activities:
 - a) Are not offered for credit toward graduation requirements; and
 - b) Are conducted during or outside of school hours, at times established by the school authority;
 - c) Are conducted, directed or supervised by instructional staff in a learning environment;
 - d) May be partially funded by public funds for general instructional purposes;
 - e) May use the school name, mascot or other school-related name in the activity.
2. Examples of co-curricular activities include, but are not limited to:
 - a) School Student Council;
 - b) City-wide Student Council;
 - c) Class Officers or governing boards;
 - d) School Spirit Events, including “royalty” designations;
 - e) School Yearbook, (unless included as part of a language arts elective course for which credit is granted in which the student is enrolled);
 - f) School Literary Magazine, or other Student publications (unless included as part of a language arts elective course for which credit is granted in which the student is enrolled);
 - g) School Newspaper (unless included as part of a language arts elective course for which credit is granted in which the student is enrolled).

B. “Covered activities” means those activities identified by the Minnesota State High School League as Category I or Category II activities.

C. “Extra-curricular activities”.

1. “Extra-curricular activities” means all direct or personal services for students for their enjoyment that are managed and operated under the guidance of an adult or staff member. In addition, extra-curricular activities:
 - a) Are not offered for credit toward graduation requirements; and
 - b) Are conducted primarily outside school hours, and when conducted during school hours at times agreed to by the participants with the approval of the Principal; and

- c) May be partially funded by public funds.
- d) May use the school name, mascot or team name as part of the activity.
- 2. Examples of extra-curricular activities include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Interscholastic athletic programs;
 - b) Cheerleading;
 - c) Forensics or speech;
 - d) Debate;
 - e) Drama or theatre productions, including both artistic and technical participants, when not required as part of a course offered for credit towards graduation in which the student is enrolled;
 - f) Bands or musical ensembles that are not part of a arts course offered for credit in which the student is enrolled (i.e. marching band, pep band, jazz or show bands or choirs, chamber ensembles, pit bands or orchestras);
 - g) Mock trial competitions or preparation;
 - h) Danceline.
- D. **“Grade Point Average (G.P.A.)”** shall mean the numeric value computed when the number of credits multiplied by the numeric value of the grades received for each credit is divided by the total number of credits earned. In addition:
 - 1. Grades and credits earned through area learning centers (ALC, after school or online enrollment), shall be included in the computation for the grades earned during the grading period in which these credits are earned, except that grades earned during summer session shall be added to the previous grading period of the school year for computation.
 - 2. Grades and credits earned through post-secondary education options (PSEO) shall be included in the computation for grades earned during the grading period in which these credits are earned. If grades or credits earned in this way are not known at the time that the GPA is figured for regular high school courses, the student’s GPA will be figured without these credits or grades until such time as they are reported to the school of enrollment.
 - 3. Grades and credits earned or awarded by examination shall not be included in the computation of a student’s grade point average.
- E. **“Leadership position”** shall mean any position awarded a student through appointment or election related to any school activity including, but not limited to:
 - 1. Team captain, co-captain, or other team officer;
 - 2. Class officer;
 - 3. Class or school representative to any student government body;
 - 4. Officer of any student government body;
 - 5. Class “royalty” for any school spirit event;
 - 6. Class or school mascot;
 - 7. Editor or other sub-editor leader position in any student publication;
 - 8. Officer in any student enrichment activity;
 - 9. Student speaker at any graduation, commencement, culmination or celebratory ceremony sponsored by the District, school or activity.

- F. **“On track for graduation”** shall mean satisfactory completion of credits both as to number and as to distribution as is required for a student to graduate from Minneapolis Public Schools within eight semesters commencing with the student’s first entry as a ninth grade student in any high school. The Superintendent shall establish a schedule of credit requirements that shall be the minimum standard for eligibility.
- G. **“Student Enrichment Activities”**
1. Student enrichment activities are those activities sanctioned by the school that are open to all students based on their interests, but for which academic eligibility is not required. In addition student enrichment activities:
 - a) Are not offered for credit toward graduation requirements; and
 - b) Are conducted primarily outside school hours, and when conducted during school hours at times agreed to by the participants with the approval of the Principal;
 - c) Are supervised, conducted or directed by an adult or staff member approved by the Principal;
 - d) May use the school name, mascot or affiliated name of the school as part of the activity.
 2. Examples of student enrichment activities include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Interest Clubs (such as Chess clubs, Robotics, Math Teams, Animé Club, Cooking Club);
 - b) Subject matter competitions (when not controlled by the Minnesota State High School League Rules and when not required as part of a course offered for credit) such as Science Fairs, History Day, Quiz Bowl and the like;
 - c) World Language Clubs;
 - d) Special Interest Clubs (such as African-American Student Association, Asian-American Student Association, Hispanic Student Association, Gay-Straight Alliance, Native Peoples Club; New Americans Club);
 - e) Student Honor Organizations, (Quill and Scroll, Thespian Society, National Honor Society). Honor Organizations may comply with state or national standards for eligibility, participation and membership that exceed the standards of district policies.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. §123B.49 (Extracurricular Activities)

Other References:

Minnesota State High School League Official Handbook posted at www.MSHSL.org

Cross References:

MPS Policy 1130 (Appearances, Interviews and Performance)

MPS Policy 3260 (Advertising/ Selling Merchandise/ School Stores)

MPS Policy 4002 (Harassment and Violence Prohibition)
MPS Policy 4025 (Drug-Free and Weapons-Free Schools and Workplace)
MPS Policy 5000 (Equal Education Opportunity)
MPS Policy 5050 (Title IX Compliance)
MPS Policy 5100 (Attendance)
MPS Policy 5200 (Citywide Discipline)
MPS Policy 5201 (Bullying and Hazing Prohibition)
MPS Policy 5260 (School Attendance Area)
MPS Policy 5391 (Graduation Requirements)
MPS Policy 5400 (Activities Cost)
MPS Policy 5510 (Public Performances by Students)
MPS Policy 5540 (Fundraising)
MPS Policy 5631 (Drug-Free Schools, Chemical Health, Chemical Use and Abuse)
MPS Policy 5750 (Disability Nondiscrimination – Section 504)
MPS Policy 6010 (Autonomous Schools)
MPS Policy 6230 (Field Trips)
MPS Policy 6524 (Student Publications)
MPS Policy 6690 (Health, Nutrition and Wellness Education)
MPS Policy 6800 (Naming of School Symbols, Teams, Mascots)