



Book	Policy Manual
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## **BRICK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION Policy**

X	Monitored
X	Mandated
X	Other Reasons

### INTRAMURAL COMPETITION; INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION

The Brick 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 and artistic expression can provide pupils with valuable experiences and opportunities. In this district, the emphasis in any competition or artistic expression shall be on providing inclusion in 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 competitions, either via 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 equity in 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

No pupil may participate in a school-sponsored physical or artistic activity outside the general education curriculum without a signed consent form from a parent/guardian naming the activity and acknowledging that the activity may be hazardous.

#### Academic Eligibility

Academic standards for eligibility shall be those established by policy 6145 Extracurricular Activities.

#### Attendance Standards

Attendance standards shall be those set in policy 5113 Attendance, Absences 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 serving a detention 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.

#### Special Education Pupils

To participate in interscholastic competition, special education pupils must meet the same requirements listed above and the physical eligibility requirements. Reasonable modifications must be provided to each qualified pupil seeking to participate in an extra-curricular activity. However, a modification may be denied if, based on an individualized assessment, the modification presents an objective health or safety risk to the pupil or to others, or where the modification would result in a fundamental alteration to the nature of the program. A fundamental alteration is a modification that provides an objective advantage or disadvantage or requires a change in the rules of competition.

#### Charter School Students

A district resident student enrolled as a full-time student in grades 9-12 at a charter school who wishes to participate in a particular sport that is not offered by the charter school may participate in the sport if offered by this district upon agreement of both principals. The number of sports programs offered at the charter school shall not factor into the agreement to allow the student to participate.

Charter school students shall be subject to the eligibility requirements and rules for participation for the sport and the district code of student conduct.

#### Non-enrolled Resident Student Participation in Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities

The board believes that non-enrolled resident students including students being home schooled or attending charter schools should be offered the opportunity to participate in district sponsored extracurricular and interscholastic activities. Therefore non-enrolled resident students may be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities and on the district athletic teams. Non-enrolled resident students shall be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities when space is available and within the constraints of the activity budget.

Non-enrolled resident students shall be permitted to try-out for all athletic teams, theatrical production and other competitive activities and shall be permitted to participate when the student successfully competes for and earns a spot on the team or in the activity.

Resident homeschooled and charter school students shall be eligible to participate if the following conditions are met:

A. Notice and request to principal.

The parents/guardians of the student shall submit a written request to the principal of the school assigned to the student's place of residence to try out for interscholastic athletics. This request shall be submitted with proof of residency not later than 60 calendar days prior to the starting date of the activity or the first practice.

B. The student shall be a resident of Brick Township.

The student must reside in the school district and shall meet the residency criteria pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22 and board policy 5111 Admission. The student shall provide proof of residence which shall be kept on file at the main office. A student shall be assigned to participate at the school of record for the student's place of residence in the same manner as other students of the Brick School District.

C. The board shall approve the participation of the non-enrolled resident student.

Consistent with Department of Education guidelines, a non-enrolled resident student may participate in extracurricular activities and specifically interscholastic athletics if the local board of education, in its discretion, approves the participation of resident nonpublic or charter school student.

D. The student shall comply with the requirements of the Brick Board of Education

The student must comply with the same physical examination, insurance, age, academic and other requirements for participation as required of all students at the district school (board policies 6145 Extracurricular Activities, 6145.1/6145.2 Intramural and Interscholastic Competition). The resident nonpublic school student must adhere to the same standards of behavior, responsibilities and performance as other members of the team (5131 Conduct and Discipline, District Code of Student Conduct).

E. Non-enrolled resident students shall meet any skill or experience eligibility requirements for participation in extracurricular activities and shall be required to compete for positions, roles, and or other screening criteria that the activity may require. Certification of skill or experience may be required.

### Compliance with NJSIAA Requirements

Resident nonpublic or charter school students must meet all eligibility requirements established by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA), including but not limited to rules relating to amateur status, age, recruitment, academic credits, semesters of eligibility and transfers. In particular, homeschooled students will be subject to all rulings and decisions of the NJSIAA, and may appeal any adverse decision to the Commissioner of Education under N.J.A.C. 6A:3-7.1 et seq.

A. In accordance with the NJSIAA requirements for participation in interscholastic athletics, the student shall be required to show demonstration of equivalent education for participation.

The parents/guardians of the homeschooled student shall certify in writing that the student is receiving an academically equivalent education.

B. The parents/guardians of the homeschooled student shall provide certification of academic eligibility.

The parents/guardians of the homeschooled student shall provide evidence satisfactory to the principal that the student has met the requirements of the school's own policy for academic eligibility to participate as detailed in board policy 6145 Extracurricular Activities. The principal may require a description of the classes the student is currently taking, the daily schedule of study, and grades or measurements of progress utilized in the homeschool program.

Any student who withdraws from the public school program to enroll in a homeschool program, and who is ineligible at the time of withdrawal from the public school program due to his/her failure to meet academic, behavioral or eligibility standards, shall be ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletic competition.

Homeschooled or charter school students participants who have satisfied the requirements above shall have the rights, privileges, and responsibilities associated with all other student athletes attending NJSIAA member schools.

### Equality and Equity in Athletic Programs

The district athletic programs shall be operated equitably with regard to the male and female teams including:

- A. Relatively equal numbers of varsity and sub-varsity teams for male and female pupils;
- B. Equitable scheduling of night games, practice times, locations and number of games for male and female teams;
- C. Equitable treatment that includes staff salaries, purchase and maintenance of equipment and supplies;
- D. Comparable facilities for male and female teams.

### Physical Eligibility

All pupils in grades 6 through 12 participating in intramural or interscholastic athletics must be given a medical examination within 365 days prior to the first practice session, with a health history update if the examination was completed more than 60 days prior to the first practice session of the first sport participated in. The medical examination shall be given at the pupil's medical home, as defined in file code 5141.3 Health Examinations and Immunizations. If a pupil does not have a medical home, the school physician shall conduct the medical examination. Examinations shall be made available throughout the school year consistent with the district

athletic schedule. The examination shall be documented on the form approved by the commissioner of education and include, as a minimum, the components listed in the administrative code. In the event a private physician is used, the medical examination shall not be at the expense of the 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 medical examination to determine the fitness of a pupil to participate in athletics shall include, as a minimum, the following:

A. A medical history questionnaire, completed by the parent/guardian of the pupil, to determine if the pupil:

1. Has been medically advised not to participate in any sport, and the reason for such advice;
2. Is under a physician's care and the reasons for such care;
3. Has experienced loss of consciousness after an injury;
4. Has experienced a fracture or dislocation;
5. Has undergone any surgery;
6. Takes any medication on a regular basis, the names of such medication and the reasons for such medication;
7. Has allergies including hives, asthma and reaction to bee stings;
8. Has experienced frequent chest pains or palpitations;
9. Has a recent history of fatigue and undue tiredness;
10. Has a history of fainting with exercise;
11. Has a history of family members dying suddenly.

B. A physical examination which shall include, as a minimum, no less than:

1. Measurement of weight, height, and blood pressure;
2. Examination of the skin to determine the presence of infection, scars of previous surgery or trauma, jaundice, and purpura;
3. Examination of the eyes to determine visual acuity, use of eyeglasses or contact lenses, and examination of the sclera for the presence of jaundice;
4. Examination of the ears to determine the presence of acute or chronic infection, perforation of the eardrum and gross hearing loss;
5. Examination of the nose to assess the presence of deformity which may affect endurance;
6. Assessment of the neck to determine range of motion and the presence of pain associated with such motion;
7. Examination of chest contour;
8. Auscultation and percussion of the lungs;
9. Assessment of the heart with attention to the presence of murmurs, noting rhythm and rate;
10. Assessment of the abdomen with attention to the possible presence of hepatomegaly, splenomegaly, or abnormal masses;
11. Assessment of the back to determine range of motion and abnormal curvature of the spine;
12. Examination of extremities to determine abnormal mobility or immobility, deformity, instability, muscle weakness or atrophy, surgical scars and varicosities;
13. Examination of the testes to determine the presence and descent of both testes, abnormal masses or configurations, or hernia;
14. Assessment of physiological maturation;
15. Neurological examination to assess balance and coordination and the presence of abnormal reflexes.

#### [Varsity Letters](#)

A student enrolled in grades 9-12 who participates in any school-sponsored, interscholastic extracurricular activity that includes competitions in which the student competes against students enrolled in schools outside of the district may be eligible to earn a varsity letter awarded by the district. The activity leader or athletic coach may as he or she deems appropriate, submit criteria for awarding varsity letters to the chief school administrator or his or her designee for approval. The chief school administrator or his or her designee shall approve the criteria for each school-sponsored, interscholastic extracurricular activity that includes competitions prior to varsity letters being awarded.

The activity leader or the athletic coach shall be responsible for development of the criteria for determining outstanding performance that qualifies a student to earn a varsity letter in the activity. The criteria shall apply to all participants in the activity and may include but are not limited to:

- A. The number of participants in the activity;
- B. The length of time the student has participated;
- C. The percentage of competitions the student has participated in;
- D. Attendance at practices and competitions;
- E. Indicators of outstanding effort, performance and teamwork.

The district shall not be required to award a varsity letter or to establish any school-sponsored, interscholastic extracurricular activity.

#### Insurance

The board may cover each participant in an extracurricular activity with insurance coverage in consultation with the current insurance carrier.

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

#### Pamphlet on Sudden Cardiac Arrest

Once each school year, the superintendent or designee shall distribute to parents/guardians of pupils participating in school sports, the New Jersey Department of Education's pamphlet on sudden cardiac death. The pamphlet includes a description of early warning signs and privately available screening options.

#### Fact Sheet on the Use and Misuse of Opioid Drugs

Once each school year, the chief school administrator or designee shall distribute to parents/guardians of students participating in the interscholastic sports program or cheerleading program the educational fact sheet developed by the Commissioner of Education in consultation with the Commissioner of Health. The Fact Sheet provides information concerning the use and misuse of opioid drugs in the event that a student-athlete or cheerleader is prescribed an opioid for a sports-related injury. The district shall obtain a signed acknowledgment of the receipt of the fact sheet by the student-athlete or cheerleader and his/her parent or guardian.

#### Good Sportsmanship

The board believes that instilling habits of good sportsmanship should be one of the primary goals of athletic endeavors and that all district employees should model good behaviors in this area.

It is especially important that the athletic director and coaches accept the responsibility for encouraging young athletes to handle themselves in a sportsmanlike way and be models of self-control and dignity for players and spectators. Coaches shall include discussions on courtesy and sportsmanlike behavior as part of pre-game activities. Pupil fans shall be reminded that their conduct reflects on the schools of this district and that poor sportsmanship will be disciplined.

Parents/guardians and other adult spectators shall also be encouraged to act as models for young people by demonstrating self-control and dignity at all athletic events.

Unsportsmanlike behavior as exhibited through verbal abuse, rude gestures, taunts, obscenities, thrown objects, etc., shall not be tolerated in pupils, staff or any persons in attendance at district athletic competitions. Discipline may include, but not be limited to, eviction from the competition and prevention from attending further competitions.

The superintendent shall prepare regulations on good sportsmanship and ensure their dissemination to pupils, parents/guardians and the community.

#### Key Words

Extracurricular Activities, Cocurricular Activities, Competition, Intramural Competition, Interscholastic Competition

## Legal

N.J.S.A. 18A 11-3: Voluntary associations regulating conduct of student activities; membership; rules and regulations; appeals

N.J.S.A. 18A 26-2.1: Certification for director of athletics

N.J.S.A. 18A 36-20 Discrimination; prohibition

N.J.S.A. 18A 40-41: Sudden cardiac arrest pamphlet; development, distribution.

N.J.S.A. 18A 40A-1: Instructional programs on drugs, alcohol, anabolic steroids, tobacco and controlled dangerous substances; curriculum guidelines

N.J.S.A. 18A 40A-9 et seq: Definitions

N.J.S.A. 18A 40A-10: Referral program in schools

N.J.S.A. 18A 40A-11: Policies for evaluations, referral, discipline

N.J.S.A. 18A:42-7: Participants in certain interscholastic extracurricular activities may earn varsity letter.

N.J.S.A. 18A 42-2: School orchestra not to compete with civilian musicians; exceptions

N.J.S.A. 5 17-1: Athletic code of conduct, permitted; "youth sports event" defined

N.J.A.C. 6A 7-1.4 Responsibilities of the district board of education

N.J.A.C. 6A 7-1.7 Equality in school and classroom practices

N.J.A.C. 6A 9B-5.16 Athletics Personnel

N.J.A.C. 6A:11-4.14 Sports programs

N.J.A.C. 6A 16-2.1 Health services policy and procedural requirements

N.J.A.C. 6A 16-2.2 Required health services

N.J.A.C. 6A 30-1.1 Purpose and scope

N.J.A.C. 6A 32-9.1 General requirements

20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

29 U.S.C. 794 et seq Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Comprehensive Equity Plan, New Jersey State Department of Education

Krupp v. Bd. of Ed. of Union County Reg. H.S. Dist. #1, 278 N.J. Super. 31(App. Div. 1994) cert. den. 140 N.J. 277 (1994)

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