

Community Relations

Community Sponsored Extracurricular Activities

Applicability

Extracurricular Activities are defined as any District sanctioned activity that occurs primarily outside regular school hours. This policy provides a method for the Board of Education to incorporate community (i.e. student, community group, or individual contributor) sponsorship when the District cannot fund 100% of the program costs. On a yearly basis, the Board of Education should review the Extracurricular Activities and determine its level of financial support based on how the program fits into the educational goals of the District. Funding methods to support the Extracurricular Activity program can be determined using the concepts in this policy. This policy and the methods described within will be applied independently and separately to the Extracurricular Activity program at the Morrison Junior High School and to the program at the Morrison High School. Student Participation Fees are not included as part of the out-of-district tuition fee but are in addition to that tuition fee. Student Managers are exempted from the Student Participation Fee.

Fundamental Principles

Regardless of the level of District funding, all programs will remain District programs. As such, the District retains responsibility for administration of the program and the program will be operated in accordance with the IHSA rules and other applicable laws. Coaches will be selected per the collective bargaining agreement and in accordance with IHSA rules. Sponsorship of a program or payment of a Student Participation Fee does not entitle the sponsor or student to any special rights or privileges, such as selection of which programs to offer or guaranteed playing time. When sharing costs, the Student Participation Fees are applied first to the salaries of employees. The District retains the right to determine when an activity will not be continued based on factors such as the number of participants, cost per participant, or other factors which could make it impractical or unreasonable to offer an activity.

Conceptual Overview

The District recognizes the role that Extra Curricular Activities play in the educational structure of our schools. Financial factors can impact the ability of the District to fully fund those activities and this process allows shifting costs to the students and the community. In the case of typically low-cost programs, the cost will be paid through a Student Participation Fee. For higher-cost programs, the cost is potentially shared between the District, the student, and a community sponsor(s). The process is primarily funded through the Student Participation Fees. An overview flow diagram is provided at the end of this policy to help in understanding the process.

On a yearly basis, the District will evaluate its Extracurricular Program and determine how to fund it for the subsequent year. The first step in this process is to determine the program costs, costs per participant, and participation levels. With this information, the Board of Education will have a basis to determine the level of funding to be provided by the District and the programs that are to be funded entirely by the Student Participation Fee. At this point, community sponsors will be identified and pledges obtained for their support. Once the program costs have been adjusted to reflect the funding available from the District and the community sponsors, the remainder of the costs will be assessed through Student Participation Fees. The Student Participation Fees will be based on a 3-tier, declining cost approach that is designed to fairly distribute the cost while maintaining incentive to participate in multiple activities. For those programs that are funded entirely by the Student Participation Fee, the fee will be set equal to the lowest level of the 3-tier fee structure. When the fees have been established, the students will sign a pledge to participate in the program and the parent of the student

will sign a pledge to pay the Student Participation Fee. Once the values have been determined, they will be presented for final approval by the Board of Education.

The District will have responsibility to fund the discount for those students who qualify for the reduced lunch program and therefore have their Student Participation Fee reduced to 33% of the stated fee. Refunds of the Student Participation Fee will be made for participant's cut from the program based on performance. These cuts will typically be made within the first two weeks of the program. Pro-rated refunds will be made for students who are unable to play for the remainder of the season because they transfer out of the District or experience a doctor's diagnosed long-term sports injury. Refunds will not be provided for participants who quit or are removed from the program for disciplinary reasons.

ADOPTED: May 11, 2004