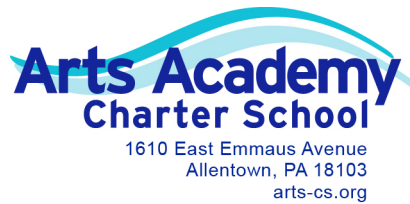


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## Board Policy 3.5

### Extracurricular Activities

The Board believes that the school's mission, goals and objectives are best achieved by a diversity of learning and artistic experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular curricular program of the schools.

All such experiences offered by the schools, curricular and extracurricular, shall be planned and integrated toward attainment of the school's educational objectives and mission.

**Definition:** For purposes of this policy, **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** shall be those programs that are sponsored or approved by the Board and are conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day; are marked by student participation in the processes of initiation, planning, organizing, and execution; and are equally available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate.

The school shall make school facilities, supplies and equipment available and shall assign staff members for the support of extracurricular activities for students. Such availability and assignment shall be in accordance with the Equal Access Act.

Any extracurricular activity shall be considered under the sponsorship of this Board when it has been formally approved as an extracurricular activity by the Board upon recommendation of the Executive Director.

The Board shall maintain the program of extracurricular activities at no cost to participating students, except that:

1. Students may be responsible for the following costs: Uniforms, shoes, personal equipment, and other gear. Students shall also be responsible for any necessary physical exams, re-certification physical exams, or other medical documentation necessary for participation in an activity/sport.
2. The Board's responsibility for provision of supplies shall carry the same exemptions as listed in the Board's policy on regular school supplies.
3. Where eligibility requirements are necessary or desirable, the Board shall be informed of and

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Revision Date(s):	

must approve the establishment of eligibility standards before they are operable and may require modification of such standards..

### **Off-Campus Activities**

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would violate the Code of Student Conduct if:

4. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.
5. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.
6. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.
7. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct.
8. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.

### **Students Participating in School Extracurricular Programs**

AACS students are permitted, by law, to participate in the extracurricular programs, including sports, of their local school where such program is not offered at AACS. The Principal shall be responsible for communicating with the student's local School to provide any necessary information, such as grades, attendance information, etc., for the student's ongoing participation in such programs. Such information shall be provided to the student's local school by the Principal upon specific request of the school within a reasonable amount of time. Where a student, parent or local school employee experiences a problem with the flow and timeliness of information pursuant to this section, he/she should bring such concerns to the Principal directly. Where such concerns are not alleviated through that process, such concerns should be raised with the Executive Director.

### **Section 504 / Chapter 15**

Students with qualifying disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or 22 Pa Code Chapter 15 shall be entitled to applicable protections and appropriate accommodations, if necessary, under those laws.

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Revision Date(s):	

**Academics, Attendance and Code of Conduct Violations as Factors for Eligibility to Participate in AACS Extracurricular Programs.**

The Board directs the Executive Director to develop administrative procedures setting forth specific requirements for student eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities based upon academic performance and school attendance as well as compliance with the school's student Code of Conduct.

**Release Form**

Participation by any student in extracurricular activities shall be conditioned upon the execution by that student and his/her parent/guardian of a release form prepared by the school, which shall be circulated to all students in the activity prior to participation.