

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education considers extra-curricular activities to be a valuable part of the program of the school and shall support these activities within the financial means of the District. Activities at Sharon Springs Central School will be available to all students.

The Board of Education encourages the development of those activities that extend and/or enhance the learning opportunities of the individual in a relevant way.

Interscholastic sports, performing arts and other extra-curricular activities shall be considered appropriate when involvement provides relevant educational experiences, whose values are in proportion to the time and resources involved. Therefore, every effort should be made to select activities that can be carried out solely by students under the guidance and supervision of school staff.

The Board recognizes the value of both competitive and cooperative extra-curricular activities because of their potential for developing a sense of good sportsmanship and human understanding within the school community.

All proposed extracurricular club/activity group must have by-laws and an advisor that are presented to and approved of by the Board of Education prior to the creation of the club.

The District shall adhere to the rules of the Equal Access Act in regard to clubs, meetings and activities covered under such act. Specifically, since the District has created a "limited open forum" it shall not deny equal access or a fair opportunity to, or discriminate against, any students who wish to conduct a meeting within such limited open forum on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings, provided that the following rules shall apply:

- (1) The meeting must be voluntary and student-initiated;
- (2) There will be no sponsorship of the meeting by the school or its agents or employees;
- (3) Employees or agents of the school will be present at such meetings only in a supervisory, non-participatory capacity;
- (4) The meeting cannot not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
- (5) Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.

The Board prohibits student organizations whose activities may be unlawful or may cause disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of the educational process.

All activities must be submitted on a facility use request form for approval by the Building Principal/Superintendent, two weeks prior to a planned activity. All posters/advertising for activities must be submitted to the Building Principal for approval prior to display.

Eligibility for Attendance:

Students who are suspended out of school on a day of an athletic game/practice session, meeting or school dance or other school affair scheduled after regular school hours are not eligible for participation or attendance at such events. The principal may review eligibility for such events.

In order for students to attend a school-sponsored function, it is necessary that students attend classes for at least one-half (1/2) of the school day on the day of the activity, unless otherwise excused by the building administrator. One-half (1/2) of the school day is defined as follows: 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. until the end of the school day.

New York Code of Rules and Regulations:

(NYCRR Sections 172.1 and 172.2

Education Law Sections:

1709a and 2503a and 2554a

Equal Access Act:

20 United States Code (USC) Sections 4071 - 4074