

POLICY #2425 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Board of Education recognizes the value of physical activity in the development and maintenance of sound physical and mental health. Accordingly, the Board directs the establishment, in accordance with law, of courses of physical education and the enrollment therein of every pupil in attendance in the schools of this district, insofar as each is physically capable of participation. Each course will provide pupils with a regimen of physical exercise and activity, assist pupils in the development of physical skills and achievements, encourage pupils in a spirit of sharing and cooperation, and instill in pupils a life-long appreciation for physical activity. The successive courses of physical education will be so designed as to provide pupils with exposure to a variety of athletic and physical activities.

The Board encourages all pupils to participate fully in the physical education program. It recognizes, however, that some pupils are engaged in interscholastic or extra-mural programs of vigorous physical activity, such as preparation for participation in the Olympic Games. Such pupils may, pursuant to rules of the State Board of Education, be excused from the requirement for enrollment in a physical education course and may earn physical education credit for interscholastic team activity or for an alternate program of athletics, provided that the request of any such pupil has been granted by the building principal. No such request will be granted unless the pupil has demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the principal in consultation with an appropriately certified staff member, that the interscholastic activity or alternate athletic program meets the physical education program goals and objectives established by this Board and provides activity and development equivalent to that provided by the physical education program of this district.

Pupil participation in health and safety classes will be unaffected by this policy. Any pupil excused from physical education class pursuant to this policy shall devote to study and scholastic purposes any school time left unscheduled by the excusal.

A pupil excused from physical education classes will be granted credit for physical education provided he or she earns a passing grade in the alternate activity. A pupil whose physical education credit is earned in interscholastic team activity will be graded by the team coach. A pupil whose physical education credit is earned in an alternate program of physical activity will be graded by the physical education department chairman in consultation with the person who has supervised the alternate program. Grades earned will be entered in the pupil's permanent record with a notation of the alternate program for which physical education credit is given.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-5

N.J.A.C. 6:28-4.1, 6:29-3.2

Adopted: 11 June 1997