

Co/Extracurricular Student Activities

It is the Board's desire to offer RSU 40 students co/extracurricular programming that provides diverse, developmentally appropriate opportunities and encourages student participation. At the same time, the Board recognizes that resources may not be available to fund all of the activities in which students and the community have an interest. In order to provide students with meaningful experiences while maintaining high quality, sustainable programs, the Board adopts this policy governing sponsorship and evaluation of RSU 40's co/extracurricular programs.

Through sponsorship, RSU 40 assumes responsibility for, and control of, a particular program. Sponsorship requires Board approval. RSU 40 assumes responsibility only for those programs the Board has designated as school-sponsored.

The Board will approve for sponsorship only those programs that are consistent with its philosophy and policies and with regulations established by the appropriate governing bodies, including the Maine Principals' Association (which refers to its regulations as "policies").

Sponsorship does not mean that funding will be provided in whole or in part through the RSU 40's budget. Sponsorship is required even for activities that may be funded in full by booster organizations.

Sponsorship is required before any team or group may represent itself using the school name, be eligible for interscholastic competition, or be eligible for school awards.

Approval of New Co/Extracurricular Programs

The Superintendent is responsible for developing a process for evaluating potential programs and assessing the viability of existing programs. The process will take into consideration the following factors, which will be applied consistently to all applicable programs:

- a. Type of club or activity
- b. Who would be eligible to join or participate
- c. Number of students who could participate
- d. Number of coaches
- e. Coaches/advisor stipends (cost and number), if requested
- f. Academic requirements to participate
- g. Cost for equipment or material to initiate the activity or program
- h. Cost of transportation to attend functions or games

- i. Length of season or activity
- j. Other information as required by the administration or Board.

Following initial approval, new athletic programs will be placed on a two-year probationary status. Six months prior to the end of the probationary period, the Superintendent/designee will submit a report to the Board including recommendations and support for continued Board approval. The Board may provide for continuing approval, deny approval, or extend the probationary status in one-year increments not to exceed a total probationary period of five (5) years.

Adopted: December 5, 1988 (Student Activities)

Revised: November 19, 2001
September 20, 2007
June 6, 2019