

CHAPTER 5

5.8 Activities (Revised May 27, 2004)

While the participation in school activities is deemed desirable to the total development of the child, extreme caution must be used by pupils, parents or guardians, school personnel, and board members to keep such activities within proper scope in their relationship as a part of the total school program. (Also see Section 5.8.3.8)

5.8.1 Athletic Policies

5.8.1.1 Medical Examinations/Parental Consent for Interscholastic Athletic Programs

A student shall not be permitted to engage in practice or participate in an interscholastic contest until that student has filed with the principal a completed Athletic Participation/Parental Consent/Physician's Certificate Form and an Insurance Acknowledgement Form. This form must be signed by all parties: student, parent(s), and physician. Consent and approval for sport(s) in which a student is requesting participation must be approved by both parent and physician.

A physical examination from must be completed no earlier than June 1 for an upcoming year.

(West Virginia SSAC Handbook, p.32)

5.8.1.3 Athletic Financial Obligations

5.8.1.3.1 Transportation Expense

The Marshall County Board of Education has approved the assuming of transportation costs for regularly scheduled "away" athletic contests and for accompanying bands for all county secondary schools; "and further, that the principals of the high schools be advised that from this date (June 11, 1963) all athletic programs must operate within their respective budgets, each school being entirely responsible for its own financial obligations". (Board Minutes, June 11, 1963.)

5.8.1.4 Cheerleader Transportation

Cheerleaders shall be classified as participants in athletic contests and shall be eligible for transportation as described in Section 5.8.1.3.1 if deemed necessary by the sponsor of the group and the principal of the school.

5.8.1.5 Insurance

Participation in extracurricular activities subjects students to a greater possibility of physical injury than those students who do not participate.

The Marshall County Board of Education and/or individual schools accept(s) **no** responsibility for the payment of medical bills or for insurance coverage related to injuries received during voluntary participation in **any** extracurricular activities, all of which involve a recognized and accepted risk of possible injury.

The parents/guardians of students, when they give permission for their child to participate in extracurricular activities, must acknowledge the responsibility for payment of medical expenses for their child. Therefore, it is the policy of the Marshall County Board of Education that each parent/guardian be notified in writing, of his/her responsibility to provide for medical insurance or other means of payment for any injuries the participating student should sustain during the participation in extracurricular activities. The record shall contain the method of payment for any injuries which may include, but not be limited to:

- a) Employer-sponsored medical plan;
- b) Individually purchased medical plan;
- c) Coverage through the State Medicaid Plan; or
- d) Self payment of bills.

If the method of payment for injuries alters during the course of the school year, it shall be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to immediately notify the school.

5.8.1.6 Athletic Eligibility

All athletic eligibility shall be determined by the standards, rules, and regulations of the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission, the West Virginia Department of Education and the Board of Education of the County of Marshall.

5.8.1.7 Activity Passes

Passes shall be honored at all school sponsored activities conducted in or on school property or property designated as property related to the school issuing the passes.

It is hereby understood that social and entertainment events are included in this provision.

5.8.1.8 General Governing Policies

The Board of Education of the County of Marshall has been empowered to delegate the control, supervision, and regulation of band and athletic events to the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activity Commission by the legislative action as stated in West Virginia Code, Chapter 18, Article 2, Section 25.

The Board of Education expects its coaches and others so associated with athletics to be fully acquainted with and to respect the policies and rules and regulations of the West Virginia Secondary Schools Activities Commission and the West Virginia Department of Education.

Coaches and all other administrative officers shall be held strictly accountable for infractions of the rules and regulations of the above named organization and department, to the extent of having such infractions reviewed by the Board of Education; and if such infractions are found to be willful, such acts shall be considered as neglect of duty and subject to proper penalties.

5.8.1.9 Coaching Duty Schedule and Compensation Policy

Coaches will be paid for services rendered at the verified completion of duties assigned for the involved sport season

Coaches currently receiving a prorated payment of 1/24 per pay may opt to continue this payment method.

5.8.1.10 Related Policies

See Section 5.8.3

5.8.2 Band Policies

5.8.2.1 Restrictions on Use

The use of Marshall County School Bands shall be restricted to the furtherance of patriotic, philanthropic, civic, and educational programs.

5.8.2.2 Political Use

School bands are permitted to appear only at programs where national candidates of major political parties for the Presidency Vice-Presidency, or senator of the United States of America, or the governor of West Virginia are directly and personally participating.

5.8.2.3 Transportation

See Sections 5.8.1.3.1 and 4.5.6.2

5.8.3 Other Activities

5.8.3.1 Purpose

Activities should be organized or perpetuated in the schools so long as the activities meet the needs(s) of the pupils for whom they are provided.

When an activity outlives its usefulness to the school program, it should be abolished.

When new needs are recognized, a new activity should be organized to meet the need.

5.8.3.2 Authority to Organize or Abolish

No individual has the authority to organize or abolish any activity in any school without first securing the permission of the principal.

Principals are urged to consult the superintendent when any activity is questionable in nature of organization, purpose or operation.

Any activity or club organization which may result in an extracurricular contract must receive the recommendation of the superintendent and the approval of the board.

5.8.3.3 Membership and Eligibility

All activities must carry voluntary membership. Pressure is never to be exerted in an attempt to influence membership.

All regularly enrolled full-time students without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, handicapping condition, marital status, parenthood, or pregnancy, shall have the opportunity to participate in extra curricular activities.

5.8.3.4 Exception to Membership and Eligibility Policy

Organizations which require a student to meet national, state, local board, or school policy to be a member must have on file in the school all criteria for membership. Such criteria shall include all rules and regulations that govern continued membership in that organization.

All criteria for selection, method of selection, and all rules/regulations governing the organization shall be disseminated to all students prior to possible membership.

5.8.3.5 Financial Accounting

All organizations shall follow the rules and regulations of the West Virginia Board of Education Accounting Procedures for Public Schools, Policy 1224.1 and W.Va. Code 18-5-13 paragraph (a).

5.8.3.8 Conflicts with Classes

Although we realize the importance of clubs, athletics, and bands, good judgment must be used in their administration so that conflict with instructional time will be kept at a minimum.

The principal shall be responsible for the administration of this policy. Also see Section 5.8.

5.8.3.9 Fund Raising for Activities

All school sponsored organizations must receive the approval of the principal prior to initiating a fund raising activity or event.

5.8.3.10 Secret Organizations

Secret organizations, when discovered, shall be ordered to cease and desist.

All principals shall act to prevent membership and participation by pupils in any secret organization whatsoever that is in any degree a school organization.