

Rochester School for the Deaf

Grade 6-12 Eligibility for Extra-Curricular Activities

Extracurricular participation is defined as involvement in any non-credit bearing school-sponsored organization or activity, including class organizations, clubs and athletic teams. (This does not include the prom, senior class trip or sports awards banquet). Extracurricular participation is a privilege based on a student's academic status and behavior. It is the intention of the Directors to encourage participation in extracurricular activities while maintaining an emphasis on academic performance and citizenship.

Administratively, it is the direct responsibility of the Director(s) of High School and Middle School Programs to notify the Director of After-School Activities and the Athletic Director of any students who have not satisfied the requirements for participation. It is the responsibility of the coaches and advisors to monitor the eligibility status of the students who participate in their program. This is done by monitoring the eligibility status paper (pink paper). Though warnings may be given at any time by an advisor, coach or administrator who feels it is necessary, **PROBATION** will result from one of the following:

- a. A student who has **one** failure during any 5-week grading period. A failing grade is defined as a grade below 65%.
- b. A student exhibits unacceptable behavior (ex. Disciplinary referrals) as defined in the student handbook. If a student receives 3 incident reports within the five-week period they shall be on probation. All decisions related to behavior will be made by the respective Directors of the Elementary/Middle School and High School Programs.
- c. A student has excessive school tardiness (3 or more unexcused times during any 5 week marking period).
- d. A student who has 3 instances of truancy from school.

PROBATION

A student placed on probation may continue to participate in all activities and will be monitored over a two-week period by means of an eligibility status form (pink paper). The student shall meet with the teacher for the class that was failed to develop a remediation plan to help the student with their academic success. If the student has been placed on probation due to behavior, truancy or tardiness the student shall meet with their respective Director. If the student does not fulfill the requirements they shall be ineligible for after-school activities for a period of 2 weeks. After the two-week period the student shall be re-evaluated. The student will be off probation after two weeks if:

- a. Achievement of a passing grade for the class in which a failing grade was received and/or teacher comments indicating consistent satisfactory effort in all classes.
- b. Behavior has improved as determined by the Director of Elementary/Middle School or High School Programs.
- c. The student does not have any unexcused absences.
- d. The student is not tardy to school.

While on probation the student shall be responsible to obtain the eligibility paper (pink paper) and have it signed by **all** of their teachers. If it is not signed or an unsatisfactory comment is given the student will not participate in any after school activities for that day and will be sent home or dorm where appropriate at 3 pm. If the student has missed their bus the parents shall be called to transport.

All students that were placed on probation will be evaluated after 2 weeks. If, after the two week period, the student continues to receive a failing grade, does not display consistent satisfactory effort in all classes, or does not make behavioral improvement, the student will be **INELIGIBLE to participate for the next 2 weeks.**

If the student is on probation due to excessive school tardiness or truancy they can be released from probation if they do not have any instances of this behavior during the 2-week probationary period.

A student placed on probation for truancy must not have any unexcused absences in the two-week period. If they are truant, they shall be sent home at 3 pm once it is determined an unexcused absence. To be released from probation they must have no unexcused absences for 2 weeks.

INELIGIBILITY

All students declared INELIGIBLE may not participate in any after-school activities including meetings and sporting activities. Students will remain **INELIGIBLE** for 2 weeks. The student will be re-evaluated every 2 weeks until they show satisfactory improvement and are passing the class.

Students who receive a failing grade on their previous year's final report card will begin the next school year on **PROBATION**, unless a passing grade is achieved during summer school.

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPTION

Coaches/advisors of teams or organizations, parents and dorm staff are responsible for monitoring the academic eligibility status paper (pink paper). The student is to show the coach or advisor the paper before they can participate for the day. If this paper is not signed by the teacher of an unsatisfactory grade is given the student shall be sent home at 3 pm.

When the 5-week grading reports have been completed the Director of Elementary/Middle School Programs and the Director of High School Programs shall notify the Director of Student Life and the Athletic Director of any students who will be placed on probation. The teacher of the student who has obtained a failing grade in their class shall have a meeting with the student to set up a plan for improvement and the respective Director shall notify the parents that such a plan has been developed and that their child is on academic probation for 2 weeks.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION RULE

There is a Special Consideration Rule that can be applied to a special activity once a year when students are on Probation/Ineligible. This rule is not automatically applied. At times, the Director of Elementary/Middle School Programs or the Director of High School Programs will notify staff, students and parents that the Special Consideration Rule will be applied to some events, which occur only once a year. Such events are as follows: Close Up, Campus Weekend, Academic Bowl, Leadership Retreat, Jr. NAD Conference, Math Bowl, Foreign Exchange Program and Outdoor Education. Should a student choose to apply the Special Consideration Rule to one event during the school year, the student should inform his/her coach or advisor. After notification, the coach/advisor may set up a hearing for the student to explain why he/she should be allowed to attend the event. This hearing will be made up of the Director of Elementary/Middle School Programs or the Director of High School Programs, Athletic Director (if appropriate), appropriate teachers, Director of Student Life and the student. The student will have an opportunity to justify why he/she should be allowed to attend the event. Staff in attendance will vote to determine if the student will be allowed to attend.

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