# FREEPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: PARTICIPATION IN

COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ACADEMIC COURSES BY HOME EDUCATION STUDENTS

ADOPTED: June 14, 2023

REVISED:

### 137.2. PARTICIPATION IN COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ACADEMIC COURSES BY HOME EDUCATION STUDENTS

#### **Authority**

The Board approves participation in the district's cocurricular activities and academic courses by a student enrolled in a home education program who meets all the requirements stated in law and Board policy.<sup>[1][2][3][4][5]</sup>

#### **Definition**

**Cocurricular activities** - district activities that merge extracurricular activities with a required academic course, including but not limited to, band, orchestra and other activities that include a for-credit component that takes place during the school day. [1][2][4]

#### **Guidelines**

Students attending home education programs shall be given an equal opportunity to compete for positions and participate in district cocurricular activities and academic courses in accordance with Board policy on the same basis as other students enrolled full-time in the district.<sup>[1][6][7]</sup>

A home education student may participate in cocurricular activities and academic courses only at the school building the student would be assigned to if the student was enrolled in the district. Eligible students must be enrolled in the course and physically attending in any cocurricular activity.

Prior to trying-out or auditioning for a cocurricular activity or enrolling in an academic course, a home education student shall submit required documents and written verification of eligibility or completion of prerequisites to the building principal or designee. Verification may include, but not be limited to, attendance records, portfolio records documenting completion of curriculum or other documents demonstrating completion of eligibility criteria. [1]

Participating home education students must maintain eligibility along with meeting all established building timelines.

### 137.2. PARTICIPATION IN COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ACADEMIC COURSES BY HOME EDUCATION STUDENTS

The following conditions shall govern participation in the district's cocurricular activities and academic courses by home education students, who shall:

- 1. Be a resident of the district.
- 2. Be enrolled through established enrollment process and in compliance with all required submissions.<sup>[10]</sup>
- 3. Meet the required eligibility criteria or their equivalent for the cocurricular activity or the prerequisites for the academic course. Each school may require additional assessments to determine eligibility in the requested course. [1][2][9]
- 4. Comply with Board policies and school rules and administrative regulations regarding student conduct in school and at school-sponsored activities.<sup>[1][2][11][12][13][14]</sup>
- 5. Comply with policies, rules and regulations, or their equivalent, of the cocurricular activity's governing organization, where applicable.
- 6. Meet attendance and reporting requirements established for all participants of the cocurricular activity or academic course, including any sign-in and sign-out procedures for school building attendance purposes. Home education students must participate each school day in the full class period for an academic course, unless an exception has been granted in accordance with Board policy and school rules.<sup>[15]</sup>
- 7. Comply with all Board policies, school rules and requirements and directives of the district staff, activity advisors and administrators involved with the cocurricular activity or academic course.<sup>[1]</sup>

#### **Academic Courses**

Students attending home education programs are eligible to enroll in district academic courses (not including FASD Cyber Academy courses) in accordance with law and Board policy, and may participate in academic courses equaling up to one-quarter (1/4) of the school day for full-time district students.<sup>[1]</sup>

The district is not responsible for supervising homeschool students during periods of time other than during the cocurricular activity and/or academic course(s) in which the student is enrolled.

The district shall provide the student's home education program supervisor with a grade for each cocurricular activity and academic course completed by a student enrolled in a home education program, in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulations. The home education program supervisor shall be responsible for maintaining the material in the student's portfolio of records. [1][3][16]

### 137.2. PARTICIPATION IN COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ACADEMIC COURSES BY HOME EDUCATION STUDENTS

#### **Transportation**

Parents/Guardians of home education students shall be responsible for transportation of students participating in district cocurricular activities and academic courses, except that a home education student may utilize district transportation to or from school during the times a bus is otherwise already operating, and space is available.<sup>[1]</sup>

## Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall post information regarding the district's cocurricular activities and academic courses, as well as a copy of this Board policy, on the district's publicly available website and provide participation information upon request by students enrolled in home education programs or their parents/guardians.

The building principal or designee shall request and review verification from the parent/guardian or home education program supervisor that a student has met and continues to meet the established eligibility criteria for a cocurricular activity or academic course.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish administrative regulations for prioritization of enrollment in district cocurricular activities and academic courses based on the established number of allowable participants in designated activities and courses.<sup>[1]</sup>

Prioritization may be based on academic achievement, demonstration of skills or competencies, record of conduct, scheduling conflicts, and other designated criteria. Students attending home education programs shall have an equal opportunity to compete for enrollment in district activities and courses, in accordance with established administrative regulations. [1][6][7]

#### **Legal References**

- 1. 24 P.S. 1327.1
- 2. Pol. 122
- 3. Pol. 137
- 4. Pol. 137.1
- 5. Pol. 137.3
- 6. Pol. 103
- 7. Pol. 103.1
- 8. 10 U.S.C. 2031
- 9. Pol. 105
- 10. Pol. 200
- 11. Pol. 218
- 12. Pol. 222
- 13. Pol. 227
- 14. Pol. 235
- 15. Pol. 204
- 16. Pol. 212