EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Belief

The Division recognizes the general educational value from the provision of extra-curricular activities for students and desires that well-regulated activities be organized and administered within the scope of the total school program for the overall benefit of the school.

Guidelines

1. Extra-curricular activities are school activities, sanctioned and controlled by the Principal, which offer students opportunities that extend beyond the curriculum.

2. The purpose of extra-curricular activities shall be to enhance school operations, not detracting from the curricular program, and operating on the principle of voluntary student participation.

3. The school extra-curricular program is to provide for a diversity of opportunities for participation and the level of student interest and availability of volunteer supervisory staff shall be a prime consideration in defining the range of activities available.

4. Teachers and support staff participation in extra-curricular activities is voluntary. Support staff may, however, have extra-curricular activities assigned as part of their Annual Hours Requirement.

5. The scope and range of such activities shall also be limited by the availability of finances from school-based budgets or funds raised from alternative sources.

6. The Principal shall approve all extra-curricular activities, and submit to the Superintendent a written summary for final approval of:
   6.1 Those involving more than three instructional days duration.
   6.2 Those to destinations out of province; and
   6.3 Combinations of 6.1 and 6.2 above.
   The Superintendent shall advise the Board of these types of activities.

7. All parents/guardians, housing and caring for students under 18 years of age, shall be informed in writing as to the relevant details of the activity and shall provide written/electronic consent to participate on behalf of their student(s).

8. All students aged 18 years or older, and those aged 16-17 who are living independently, shall be informed in writing as to the relevant details of the activity and shall provide written/electronic consent to participate on their own behalf.
9. The Principal may establish rules for student participation in extra-curricular activities with consideration to the student's status respecting required academic achievement, student conduct, etc.

10. Principals, in providing orientation for staff extra-curricular leaders, shall discuss with them the following:
   10.1 Philosophy;
   10.2 Playing time (if a team);
   10.3 Supervision expectations;
   10.4 Discipline procedures;
   10.5 Communication with the home;
   10.6 Finances/fundraising;
   10.7 Transportation procedures; and
   10.8 Use of facilities and equipment.

11. All students, except those 18 years of age or older and those aged 16-17 who are living independently, shall require written/electronic consent to participate from their parent/guardian. Also, the parent/guardian must be provided with a written summary of relevant details (Form 260-1) pertaining to the activity in which the student(s) participate(s).

12. Students 18 years of age or older are legal adults with all of the accompanying legislated rights, whether or not they are under the care of a parent/guardian. Students aged 16-17 who are living on their own are considered legally independent. Therefore, in both cases they must sign their own consent form or electronic consent and receive the same written summary of details as that provided to parents.

13. Consent to participate forms shall be maintained on file for a two-year period;

Reference:  Section 20, 45, 60, 61, School Act  
Traffic Safety Act  
Safety Guidelines for Physical Activity in Alberta Schools  
Safety Guidelines for Secondary Inter-School Athletics in Alberta