



ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

REQUIREMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

5122

Procedure No.

August 1, 2016

Date

- I. **PURPOSE:** To provide administrative procedures for the implementation of eligibility requirements for participation in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities.
- II. **POLICY:** In order for students to participate in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities, the Board of Education of Prince George’s County Public Schools shall require students in high school to maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 or equivalent according to PGCPS’ grading criteria for participation in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities.

If a course is repeated in summer or evening school, the new grade will replace the existing grade for purposes of determining eligibility only. If a course is taken for original credit in summer or evening school, that grade will be averaged with existing grades for purposes of determining eligibility. (Board Policy 5122)

- III. **BACKGROUND:** All students in the Prince George’s County Public Schools should be encouraged to seek and maintain the highest possible academic achievement. Interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities are important and beneficial to students. However, first priority must be given to their instructional program.
- IV. **DEFINITIONS:** The following definitions apply to the content of this administrative procedure:
 - A. **Extracurricular Activity:** Any before and after school activity that is utilized for academic enrichment or to promote service to the community, excluding interscholastic athletics.
 - B. **Extracurricular Activities Eligibility Index:** The grade point average for the quarter preceding the eligibility period.
- V. **PROCEDURES:**

- A. **Eligibility for Participation**

All students in grades 9-12 must earn an overall quarter Eligibility Index of at least 2.0 in order to participate in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities during the following quarter.

In coming 9th graders do not have a GPA requirement to participate for the First Quarter.



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If a student's Eligibility Index falls below a 2.0 while participating in a sport or activity and continues through the following quarter, the student will no longer be eligible for participation in the sport or activity. The student will need to cease participation, effective the date the report cards are released to students, as listed on the approved Board of Education school calendar.

There are **no** exemptions, waivers or probation periods for the procedures governing eligibility for participation.

B. **Computation of Students' Quarter Averages**

Information Technology personnel will compute the Extracurricular Activities Eligibility Index for all students in grades 9-12 at the end of the first, second, and third quarter and for all students in grades 8-11 at the end of the fourth quarter. (Averages will be rounded to two places behind the decimal.) This data will be sent to schools. The Extracurricular Activities Eligibility Index (Quarter GPA) will be printed on student report cards at the end of each quarter.

If a student transfers to Prince George's County Public Schools from an approved, unapproved, or unaccredited school and the GPA has been calculated and printed on the student's report card and/or transcript, PGCPS will use the GPA provided to determine his/her eligibility for participation in interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities.

If a student transfers to Prince George's County Public Schools from an approved, unapproved, or unaccredited school and the GPA has not been calculated and printed on the student's report card and/or transcript the quarter GPA will be determined by averaging all grades for all credit bearing courses attempted during the previous quarter. Each local school will be responsible for computing the quarter GPA for these students using the processes developed for this purpose by Information Technology.

C. **Raising Grade Point Average (GPA) Through Summer School and Evening School**

A student may bring up a grade point average by retaking a course or through taking an additional course in summer school or evening school.

1. A student who has a 2.0 GPA or above at the end of the fourth quarter remains eligible for participation in interscholastic sports or



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extracurricular activities during the first quarter of the fall semester regardless of grades he/she received in any course taken during the summer school, whether for original or repeat credit.

2. A student who passes all courses at the end of the year but achieves a fourth quarter GPA below 2.0 may enroll in any summer school course approved by the Instructional Director or Associate Superintendent.. The course may be for original or repeat credit.
3. A student who fails a course in English, social studies, mathematics, and/or science must repeat and pass the course failed.
4. A student who fails a course or receives a failing grade at the end of the fourth quarter in a course that is not offered in summer school may repeat and pass the same course in summer school to participate in interscholastic athletics or extracurricular activities for the first quarter of the fall semester. If the course is not offered in Summer School, a student may take a course in the same subject area with prior approval by the Instructional Director or Associate Superintendent.

If a course is repeated in summer school or evening school, the new grade will replace the existing grade for purposes of determining eligibility only. If a course is taken for original credit in summer or evening school, that grade will be averaged with existing grades for purposes of determining eligibility.

The Eligibility Index should not be recalculated manually. Information Technology will distribute to schools the process to update the Eligibility Index from Summer School grades.

D. **Appeals Procedure**

An appeal of this procedure can be made for the sole basis of challenging a course grade.

If individual students, parents, or guardians wish to appeal application of the Board policy to themselves or their child, they may appeal to the Instructional Director or Associate Superintendent, who will verify the accuracy of the student's quarter GPA and determine eligibility.



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E. **Informing Students, Parents, and Other School Personnel About These Procedures**

Students, parents, and other school personnel are to be informed of these procedures through the following:

1. Information provided in the Annual Report to the Community.
2. Information presented in Course Offerings and Descriptions.
3. Presentations to students through assemblies and/or specific classes.

VI. **RELATED PROCEDURES:** Administrative Procedure 5121.3 Grading and Reporting for High Schools, Grade Nine Through Grade Twelve.

VII. **MAINTENANCE AND UPDATE OF THESE PROCEDURES:** These procedures originate with the High School Performance Office, Department of Interscholastic Athletics. These procedures will be reviewed and updated as required.

VIII. **CANCELLATIONS AND SUPERSEDURES:** This Administrative Procedure cancels and supersedes Administrative Procedure 5122, dated August 28, 2013.

IX. **EFFECTIVE DATE:** August 1, 2016.

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