

Series 4000 Students

**Policy 4407 Participation in Extracurricular Activities
Grades 6-12**

4407.1 General Provisions

4407.1.1 Purpose. This policy sets requirements that students in grades 6-12 must meet in order to participate in extracurricular activities.

4407.1.2 Scope. This policy applies only to interscholastic athletics, student government, and class officers, in grades 6-12. Excluded from this policy are cocurricular activities which are closely related to identifiable academic programs/areas of study and which serve to complement academic curricular activities such as vocational, linguistic, mathematic, scientific, forensic, theatrical, musical, journalistic and other similar academic cocurricular activities.

4407.1.3 Authority. Parts 4407.1 through 4407.4 of this policy are required by West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2436.10, "Participation in Extracurricular Activities." Part 4407.5 of this policy is enacted under the authority of W. Va. Code § 18-2-25, and the opinion of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia in the case of *Bailey v. Truby*, 174 W. Va. 8, 321 S.E.2d 302 (1984).

4407.2 Eligibility

4407.2.1 In order to participate in the extracurricular activities to which this policy applies, a student must:

4407.2.1.1 maintain a 2.0 average as explained in part 4407.3 of this policy,

4407.2.1.2 meet all state and Harrison County attendance requirements as explained in part 4407.4 of this policy, and

4407.2.1.3 meet any academic eligibility standard approved by the Harrison County Board of Education under part 4407.5 of this policy.

4407.3 Maintain a 2.0 average

4407.3.1 A 2.0 average is defined as a grade-point average (GPA) of 2.0 or better on a scale where an "A" mark earns 4 points, a "B" is awarded 3 points, a "C" is worth 2 points, a "D" is given a value of 1 point, and an "F" is worth 0 points.

4407.3.2 For purposes of achieving the clearest and most uniform application of the policy for those schools which use a numerical grading system, all numerical grades shall be converted to the corresponding letter grade. Each letter grade shall be assigned the appropriate value as set forth above, and the average thereof computed to determine whether the student is eligible. No enhanced value should be given for a "plus" or "minus" designation, such as "B+" or "C-"; all grades with the same letter designation have the same numerical value in the 4.0 scale.

4407.3.3 In computing a student's "grade-point average" (GPA) for purposes of this policy, all subjects undertaken by the student and for which a final grade is recorded are to be considered. Athletic and cheerleading practice may not be counted as a subject. The total number of classes taken is divided into the total number of "grade points" earned to determine the GPA. Classes for which a pass/fail is awarded will be included in computing the GPA only if the student failed the class.

4407.3.4 A student's eligibility will be determined for each semester by his or her GPA the previous semester.

4407.3.5 If a student does not achieve a 2.0 average during the first semester, he or she will be ineligible for participation in the second semester (see 4407.3.8). Eligibility shall be reviewed at the mid-point of the second semester (the nine week point) to determine whether a student is maintaining a 2.0 average.

4407.3.6 If a student does not achieve a 2.0 average by the end of the second semester, he or she may attend summer school to raise the GPA so that he or she is eligible for participation at the beginning of the next school year. For purposes of computing the GPA after summer school, all of the student's grades from the second semester plus his or her grades from the summer school will be used to determine the GPA.

4407.3.7 A student who has not achieved a 2.0 GPA for the previous semester may have his or her eligibility reinstated at midsemester if the student has attained at least a 2.0 GPA.

4407.3.8 In the case of students with exceptionalities as set forth in West Virginia Board of Education Policy 2419, Regulations for the Education of Students with Exceptionalities (W.Va. 126CSR16), if grades are given, all grades received from placements in regular classrooms and special education classrooms should be included when computing the GPA.

Exceptional students placed in ungraded programs will be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities if their records indicate that they are making satisfactory progress in meeting the objectives of their individualized education program (IEP).

4407.3.9 Students who have had a break in public school attendance for any reason may be required to establish eligibility after re-enrollment in the public school. If the Harrison County school system accepts the transfer of credits/grades earned in the non-public setting, then those credits/grades may be used in determining academic eligibility. If the Harrison County school system does not accept the transfer of credits/grades earned in the non-public setting, then eligibility must be established after re-enrollment in our school system. Eligibility may be gained at mid semester (nine week point) if the student has attained a 2.0 GPA.

4407.3.10 Students who are entering public schools for the first time will be eligible for participation upon enrollment and must have a 2.0 GPA at the end of the semester in which they enroll to remain eligible.

4407.4 Meet Any School Academic Eligibility Standard Approved by the Harrison County Board of Education

4407.4.1 The main goal of our schools is the academic achievement of students.

4407.4.2 The State of West Virginia insists that each school assume direct responsibility for the academic achievement of its students, and the State empowers and expects individual schools to make adjustments to maximize student achievement. The central role of the individual school is reflected in:

4407.4.2.1 the individual school accreditation and accountability measures mandated by statute,

4407.4.2.2 the statutory requirement of individual school report cards showing the academic performance of each school's students as compared to the performance of students at other schools in the county,

4407.4.2.3 the statutory duty of each individual school to establish and maintain a plan to improve student performance and progress at the school,

4407.4.2.4 the expectation of the West Virginia legislature that individual schools will strive to make adequate yearly progress as required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act, and

4407.4.2.5 the legislature's empowerment of local school improvement councils to assist with initiatives designed to meet the unique needs and circumstances of individual schools,

4407.4.2.6 the role of faculty senates, by law, in addressing the particular instructional needs of the students in their schools,

4407.4.2.7 the establishment, by statute, of school curriculum teams charged with establishing programs and methods for implementing curricula based upon the needs of their individual schools, and

4407.4.2.8 West Virginia Board of Education policies that complement these legislative provisions.

4407.4.3 In pursuit of academic excellence, the Harrison County Board of Education believes in enabling individual schools to adapt to the unique needs of their students. To that end:

4407.4.3.1 If a school's principal and local school improvement council determine that an academic standard more rigorous than the 2.0 GPA requirement of part 4407.3 of this policy would better encourage academic achievement, they may in writing recommend that the Board of Education approve a more rigorous standard for the participation of students in the extracurricular activities covered by this policy.

4407.4.3.2 The recommendation of a more rigorous academic standard must be accompanied by written comments from the school's faculty senate, Local School Improvement Council (LSIC), and other local parent organization.

4407.4.3.3 Upon the Board's approval of the recommendation, the more rigorous academic standard will take effect at the school for the ensuing school year, and will be in addition to, not in place of, the 2.0 GPA average requirement of part 4407.3 of this policy.

4407.4.3.4 Changes or modification to individual school policy shall be done annually after review by the LSIC, Faculty Senate, and school principal, and must be submitted for approval by the Harrison county Board of Education.

4407.4.3.5 At the commencement of each school year parents shall be provided with a copy of the school's policy/procedure for participation in extracurricular activities. New arrivals during the school year shall also be provided with a copy of the school's policy/procedure.

Approved by the Harrison County Board of Education

Adopted: March 18, 2008

Page 4 of 4