



**Student Discipline – Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular Activities**  
**APPENDIX A – Guiding Principles**

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND CONDUCT OF  
CO-CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

**Preamble**

One of the goals of a quality education is effective use of instructional time. With this goal in mind, the practice of conducting co- and extra-curricular activities during school hours must be examined on the basis of the activity's contribution to the learning objectives set out in the curriculum.

Co- and extra-curricular activities have the potential to contribute to overall student development, provide experiences in the larger community and promote learning in the broad sense of the word. Nevertheless, it is important to ensure that such activities are organized and conducted in a manner that does not encroach needlessly on school based instructional time nor become purely recreational activities with no connection to expected learning outcomes.

**Definitions**

**Co-Curricular activities** are organized by the teaching staff to help achieve one or more curriculum objectives using, or extending into, instructional time. Examples include science fairs, career expositions, academic leagues, drama festivals, student leadership forums, cross-cultural events, field trips and music festivals.

**Extra-Curricular activities** are those endorsed by the school, organized for students by persons who may or may not be employed by the school, may or may not contribute to curriculum objectives and normally are conducted outside the instructional day. Examples include: interscholastic sports, travel excursions, recreational trips, winter carnivals and school dances.

**Principles**

**1. Broad Participation**

Co- and extra-curricular activities will be organized in ways that encourage participation by a broad sector of the student population.

**2. Equity**

In organizing co- and extra-curricular activities, there shall be an equitable distribution of time, human and financial resources.

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The students' need for a balance between studies, co- and extra-curricular activities and home and community responsibilities will be respected. Students will be encouraged to participate in a variety of activities.

**4. Primacy of Instructional Time**

The organization and conduct of co- and extra-curricular activities will be limited so that the primacy of school based instructional time is recognized and respected.

**5. Responsibility**

School Principals have the responsibility to maximize instructional time for students while providing a broad, balanced, and equitable co- and extra-curricular program within a framework of provincial, district and school policies.

Organizations involved in the planning and administration of co- and extra-curricular activities have a responsibility to ensure that their programs respect the principles of broad participation, equity, balance, and the primacy of instructional time.

**6. Fair Play (Fair Play vs Equal Play)**

School administrators, teachers, activity advisors, coaches and students have a responsibility to ensure that ethical and moral integrity, sportsmanship, and fair play are intrinsic to all co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Principals, in consultation with their Parent School Support Committees, will periodically review the school's co- and extra-curricular activities to ensure that they are in keeping with the above principles.

Organizations involved in the planning and administration of co- and extra-curricular activities will periodically review their programs to ensure that they are in keeping with the above principles.

**Reference**

- [ASD-W Policy 703-7](#)