POLICY JJJ (first part)—HIGH SCHOOL CO-CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ELIGIBILITY AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Participation in the School Department’s co-curricular activities and extra-curricular activities is a privilege, subject to compliance with eligibility rules and conduct expectations. As representatives of the schools, students are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times. This policy is intended to support the physical, social and emotional well being of students and to promote healthy, enriching and safe co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for all students.

1. **Eligibility Requirements**  
   1. Maine Principals Association (MPA) and Other Sponsoring Organization’s Requirements  
        
      In addition to the academic eligibility requirements summarized below, students participating in school athletics must also meet all eligibility requirements of the Maine Principals Association for participation in athletics (see applicable sections of handbook on MPA website: [http://www.mpa.cc](http://www.mpa.cc/)/). For other activities, such as admittance into the National Honor Society, any eligibility requirements of the applicable organization must be met.
   2. Academic Eligibility

a. **Covered Activities**. This eligibility policy applies to all athletic and to most extracurricular activities supported by an advisor stipend. A list of activities to which it applies shall be published in the school handbook each year.

b. **Checkpoints and Criteria for Eligibility**. Eligibility status will be checked six times each year, with the dates published on the school’s calendar and communicated annually to students and families. In order to be eligible for continued participation in covered activities from one checkpoint to the next, students must meet the following criteria:

* Passing a minimum of four classes (grades of 70 or above) per Maine Principal’s Association requirements for athletic eligibility AND
* Passing Habits of Work grades (grades of 70 or above) in ALL courses.

c. **Mid-Point Warnings**. At approximately the mid-point between eligibility checkpoint dates (the exact dates to be determined and published by the building administration), there will be a “warning” point at which teachers’ gradebooks will be current, reflecting students’ status as of that date. The school will publish theses warning dates on the school calendar and will remind families of the dates as they arise so that students can have an opportunity to bring their Habits of Work grades up to the eligibility standard.

d. **Length of Ineligibility**. Ineligible students and the families of those students will be notified of their status by an email from the school sent no later than one week after the checkpoint date. Ineligibility will commence from the date of the email and will continue until the next checkpoint date.

e. **Transition Ineligibility Period During School Year 2017-2018**. Given that this is a new approach to eligibility, the length of ineligibility during school year 2017-2018 will be two weeks commencing from the date of the email or the date of the first preseason practice if the student is an athlete and the email arrives before the commencement of a season, whichever is later. Beginning with school year 2018-2019, the period of ineligibility will be from the date of the email notifying students and families of the ineligibility status until the date of the next checkpoint.

* + 1. ~~Students passing all courses are eligible to participate in activities.~~
    2. ~~Incoming ninth graders and high school students who are failing~~**~~one~~**~~course in a quarter will be placed on academic probation and will remain on probation until the next ranking period, at which time his/her standing will be reassessed based on the quarter grade, not on the semester or final grade.  
         
       A student on academic probation is allowed to continue program participation during the probationary quarter providing that:~~
       1. ~~• A recovery plan is developed (a recovery plan must be initiated by the student, developed in conjunction with the teacher, and focused on positive, corrective action to achieve a passing grade in the failed course) within two weeks from the issuance of report cards. Coaches/advisors are also encouraged to participate in the development/monitoring of the recovery plan; and~~
       2. ~~• If a recovery plan is not developed and implemented within two weeks from the issuance of report cards, or the student fails to comply with the plan, the student will be immediately ineligible.~~
    3. ~~A student failing two or more courses in one quarter is ineligible upon the issuance of report cards and for two weeks thereafter. If, after two weeks, the student is passing all courses, he/she will be placed on academic probation and be subject to the requirements of Paragraphs A.1-2 above. If the student is not passing all courses at the end of the two-week period, he/she shall remain ineligible for the remainder of the quarter.~~
    4. ~~At the end of the academic year, a student’s eligibility for activities in the following year is assessed based on the final grades achieved in courses.~~
       1. ~~If an appropriate summer school or other course is available, a student with failing grades may apply to the Principal to make up a course for eligibility purposes. Such requests must be made in writing prior to enrolling in the course. The Principal shall consider such requests on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the teacher of the failed course and the student’s guidance counselor.~~