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## Agora Cyber Charter School

### Board of Trustees Policy

#### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES POLICY

The Board of Trustees ("Board") believes that the goals and objectives of the Agora Cyber Charter School ("Charter School") are best achieved by a diversity of experiences.

For purposes of this policy, "extra-curricular activities" shall be those activities which are sponsored or approved by the Board but are not offered for credit toward graduation. Such activities shall ordinarily be conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day, contribute to attainment of the Charter School objectives and be available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate, subject to the eligibility requirements of this policy.

The program of interscholastic athletics shall be considered extra-curricular and shall be defined as all activities relating to competitive sports, contests, games, events or exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students of this Charter School when such activities occur between schools.

The Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") shall be responsible for the development and administration of extra-curricular activities.

Any extra-curricular activity shall be considered to be under the sponsorship of the Charter School when it has been recommended by the CEO and approved by the Board.

The direct control of athletics in the Charter School may be delegated by the CEO to authorized staff within the Charter School in accordance with procedures established by the CEO.

Interscholastic activities shall not be scheduled to conflict with any educational activity necessary for meeting the requirements of the officially approved curriculum.

A faculty member shall be present at each game or contest and shall remain with the group or team until it leaves the building or grounds where the event is held.

The Charter School shall maintain the program of extracurricular activities at no cost to participating students, except that the Charter School's responsibility for the provision of supplies shall have the same exemptions as listed in the Charter School's policy on regular school supplies. Students may be required to assume all or part of the costs of travel and attendance at extracurricular events and trips. Financial obligations shall not prevent a student from participating in an extracurricular activity for which he/she otherwise is entitled to join.

Under Charter School Law, students are eligible to participate in the extracurricular activities of their school district of residence. School districts cannot limit participation of charter school students in extracurricular activities on the basis that the activity is "full" with school district students. Charter School students must be given an equal opportunity to compete for "spaces" in extracurricular activities. School districts are not required to provide transportation for a charter school student to or from the extracurricular activity. There may be additional requirements that the district of residence and charter school need to consider if the student participating or seeking to participate in extracurricular activities is a student with a disability.

The resident school district may charge the Charter School for Charter School student participation in extracurricular activities since these costs were part of the per-pupil payment that is paid to charter schools. This fee is on a "cost basis", with the resident school district neither losing nor making money, as determined by the school district using the expenses of each activity, including coach or director, uniforms, transportation and miscellaneous cost develop policies to establish which school building Charter School students may participate in extracurricular activities, such as the building closest to the Charter School or the building the student would be assigned to if s/he attended the public school district.

Disputes regarding a Charter School student's participation in the school district's extracurricular activities should be resolved between the school district and the Charter School.

This policy mandates that students achieve minimum levels of academic and behavioral performance, that achievement comes first, and that the students participating in extracurricular activities will have earned that opportunity through their educational progress and citizenship as well as their physical skills and artistic or other talents.

### **Behavior Standards**

Any student may be prohibited from participation in any extracurricular activity at the direction of the CEO if the student violates the attendance, citizenship, or behavior standards of the Charter School in accordance with the Student Handbook and/or Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the Charter School's Student Handbook and Code of Conduct for Students remain in effect and are enforceable in relation to all clubs and activities.

All students in grades [GRADE] through [GRADE] must achieve basic or better in [\[nds1\]](#) PSSA or its equivalent in Terra Nova in order to participate in extra-curricular activities with exceptions for students with IEPs and/or Section 504 Plans who will be measured in accordance with the accommodations/modifications for testing set forth in their respective IEPs or 504 Plans. Students failing to meet these criteria may participate providing they:

1. Participate in a mandatory support/remediation program; and
2. Submit a weekly report to the sponsor/coach certifying that the student has performed work in all classes.

### **Academic:**

All students in grades [GRADE] and [GRADE] are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities until the end of the second report period. From the end of the second report period forward, the academic eligibility provisions for students in grades [GRADE] through [GRADE] apply.

For students in grades [GRADE] through [GRADE], failures in two (2) or more subjects that meet five (5) periods a week shall result in the student being declared ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities.

Summer School - For purposes of determining academic eligibility, the mark earned in summer school shall replace the subject failure. The value of the summer school mark shall be used to calculate the grade point average of the student.

These standards apply to all students in grades [GRADE] through [GRADE] who are participating in extra-curricular activities including students in both regular and special education classes, as modified by IEP Goals and/or 504 Plans in the latter case.

For a student transferring into the Charter School, eligibility will be determined by the last marking period of the school the student last attended. If such marks are unobtainable, the student may participate in extra-curricular activities until future eligibility is determined by the results of the first marking period in the new school.

It is the responsibility of the coach/sponsor of any activity to be familiar with the eligibility policies listed above and to monitor the activity to assure adherence to the policies. Before a student is permitted to participate in any extra-curricular activity, the coach/sponsor must ensure that only students meeting eligibility criteria are, in fact, participants.

All coaches and sponsors are required to report to the CEO or the designee necessary participant information on a timely basis. This information is critical to complete an accurate student accounting of participation in extracurricular activities.

A student's parent(s) may appeal an eligibility ruling by a coach or sponsor to the CEO. Any decision by the CEO may then be appealed to the Board.

Recruiting of students for the purpose of athletics is an unethical and unacceptable practice of athletics.

### **Drug Use:**

Coaches and other school personnel must not encourage or facilitate the use of drugs, hormones, blood doping, or other similar means by students for any purpose including bodybuilding or the enhancement of athletic performance.

Students must not use drugs, hormones, blood doping, or similar means for the purpose of bodybuilding or the enhancement of athletic performance.

Violations of this policy will lead to disqualification of students from extracurricular activities and disciplinary action.

**Attendance:**

Any student having three (3) or more unexcused absences or lateness during the prior report card period shall be ineligible for extra-curricular activities. Further, any student absent from school shall be ineligible for participation in any after school extra-curricular activity on that date of the absence.

**TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH THE SCHOOL'S CHARTER OR APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS AND/OR CHARTER CONTROL.**