## POLICY

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## 2436 ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION FEE PROGRAM – PAY TO PARTICIPATE

The Board of Education recognizes the value of athletic competition and co-curricular activities outside the regular instructional program. However, with reduced or limited revenue and increased expenses, the Board must consider alternative revenue options to support these school-sponsored activities. Therefore, the Board of Education authorizes the establishment of an activity participation fee program as a supplemental revenue source contributing to a percentage of the school district's total costs for operating school-sponsored activities.

The Pay to Participate Fee Program will require each pupil participating in a schoolsponsored athletic activity to pay a participation fee. The specific activities and fee amounts will be recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and approved by the Board on an annual basis prior to the commencement of the registration or sign-up process for the activity.

The fee must be paid before any student may begin participation in any of the activities in which a fee has been imposed. Students will be required to produce a receipt from the district's approved online payment system with each activities/athletic participation form. The fee is non-refundable unless the student is ineligible for participation in the activity or the district does not offer the activity subsequent to the registration period.

Reasonable charges for admission to special school-sponsored events/activities shall be established by the Superintendent; where it is determined by administration that a student is not able to pay admission fees he/she shall be admitted without charge.

The fee may be waived or reduced based on financial hardship using the New Jersey eligibility standards established for free and reduced price meals.

The fee will be determined by considering the school district's costs for operating the activity to include, but shall not be limited to: coach/advisor salaries; equipment costs; facility rental fee costs; official/referee costs; event registration fees; school/facility/field preparation and maintenance costs; insurance costs; and other expenses incurred by the district in the operation of the activity. The fee must be paid prior to the pupil's participation in the activity.

Adopted: 28 March 2016 Revised: April 2016

