

LONG PRAIRIE–GREY EAGLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Independent School District No. 2753

Policy 585– ADDING EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

I. PURPOSE

The Long Prairie–Grey Eagle School Board is committed to providing K–12 students with a variety of extracurricular activities in arts, academic, and athletic areas throughout the school system, within the fiscal limitations of the District’s budget.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

It is the District’s intent to adequately staff and support activities to provide a quality program and experience for students. The School Board retains sole authority to approve, deny, or discontinue any extracurricular activity. No activity shall be added without formal approval by the School Board.

III. DEFINITIONS

Club Status is defined as a group of students organized to participate in an arts, academic, or athletic activity that is not budgeted or financially supported by the School District. Clubs are typically organized by interested parents, staff members, or through community education. A club may serve as a precursor to formal District-sponsored participation and may eventually transition into a sanctioned activity.

The District recognizes that organizations or clubs may exist outside of Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) governance. These may include activities, groups, or intramural programs with local, regional, state, or national affiliations that follow rules of other governing bodies.

IV. CRITERIA

When considering the addition of any extracurricular activity, the following criteria shall guide recommendations:

- The activity must demonstrate viability through prior operation as a club, including participation, coaching, equipment, scheduling, facilities, and organization.
- There must be sufficient student interest to justify both initial implementation and long-term sustainability.
- Adequate facilities must be available without negatively impacting existing programs or creating excessive wear and tear.
- A sufficient pool of qualified coaches and officials must be available.
- A competitive schedule must be feasible within a reasonable geographic area, minimizing disruption to the academic program.

- The addition of a new activity must not significantly diminish participation or competitiveness in existing programs.
- The activity must not pose an unusual safety risk to students, staff, or spectators.
- The activity must align with the District’s geographic, cultural, and educational context.
- Activities may be required to operate as self-sustaining programs financially until the District determines funding is appropriate.
- All activities must comply with District policies and applicable MSHSL or governing body rules.
- The activity must demonstrate long-term sustainability in participation, staffing, and financial support.
- The District must have sufficient administrative and supervisory capacity to support the activity.
- Transportation requirements and associated costs must be reasonable and sustainable.
- The activity must provide equitable access to students and not create undue barriers to participation.
- The activity must not create unreasonable liability exposure and must be insurable under District policies.
- The activity should align with the District’s educational mission and program priorities.

V. GUIDELINES

Except as outlined under School Board discretion, no new activity shall be added unless the following conditions are met:

Requests must be submitted in writing and reviewed with the Activities Director, building administration, and appropriate District leadership. The request must include:

1. A detailed description of the proposed activity
2. Identification of student grade levels impacted
3. Minimum participation requirements and rationale
4. A five (5) year participation projection
5. A Title IX impact analysis, including participation equity implications
6. Financial and budget implications
7. Staffing requirements
8. Facility requirements
9. Impact on existing programs
10. Implementation timeline
11. History of the activity as a club or prior program

Club Requirement

Activities governed by MSHSL shall typically operate as a club for a minimum of three (3) years prior to consideration for District sponsorship, unless previously established and being reinstated.

Other Activities

Non-MSHSL organizations must also seek School Board approval if requesting District resources, staffing, or recognition as a District extracurricular activity.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

A. Administrative Review

All proposed activities shall be reviewed by District administration prior to School Board consideration.

B. Title IX Compliance

The District shall ensure that any addition of extracurricular activities complies with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

Prior to approval, the District shall evaluate:

- Gender equity in participation opportunities
- Overall balance of male and female athletic participation
- Resource allocation (facilities, staffing, scheduling)
- Impact on existing programs

No activity shall be added if it results in noncompliance with Title IX, unless adjustments are made to ensure compliance.

C. School Board Authority and Discretion

The School Board retains full and final authority to:

- Approve or deny any proposed extracurricular activity
- Require modifications to proposals prior to approval
- Approve activities on a trial basis
- Discontinue any activity based on participation, financial constraints, safety concerns, or program effectiveness

Approval of an activity shall not create a guarantee of continued operation.

The School Board may, at its discretion, approve or deny a request regardless of whether the criteria and guidelines outlined in this policy have been met.