The Board believes that the goals and objectives of this district are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular classroom curricular program of the school. For purposes of this policy, “co-curricular activities” shall be those activities which are sponsored or approved by the Board but are not offered as a requirement toward graduation, nor are they athletic activities. Such activities shall ordinarily be:

- conducted wholly or partly outside the regular school day;
- marked by student participation in the processes of initiation, planning, organizing, and execution;
- available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate except where eligibility requirements are necessary or desirable;
- and shall ordinarily include band/chorus and clubs, etc.

The Board shall make school facilities, supplies and equipment available and assign staff members for the support of a program of co-curricular activities. Any co-curricular activity shall be considered to be under the sponsorship of this Board when it has been approved by the Board on recommendation of the Superintendent.

A child of school age who is enrolled in a home education program, a charter school, a cyber charter school, or a private school, and whose school district of residence is the Catasauqua Area School District, shall be allowed to participate in a District co-curricular activity to the same extent as a student attending the school to which the child would be assigned if he/she were enrolled in the Catasauqua Area School District, provided that—
1. the child meets the eligibility criteria or their equivalent for participation in the activity that apply to students enrolled in the District. The parents/guardian of a child enrolled in a charter school, cyber charter school, or private school must authorize such school to provide written confirmation to the District that the child meets the eligibility criteria (including copies of the child’s attendance records, grades, and other relevant records), and such school must provide the information in a timely manner;

2. the child meets the tryout criteria or their equivalent for participation in the activity that apply to students enrolled in the District;

3. the child complies with all policies, rules, and regulations or their equivalent of the governing organization of the activity;

4. satisfactory arrangements are made to transport the child to/from the site(s) where District-enrolled students report for/are dismissed from the activity. The District is not required to provide transportation to or from a co-curricular activity for a child who is enrolled in a home education program, a charter school, a cyber charter school, or a private school; and

5. if the child is enrolled in a charter school, cyber charter school, or private school, such school does not provide the same co-curricular activity.

Where a co-curricular activity requires completion of a physical examination or medical test as a condition of participation and the District offers such physical examination or medical test to students enrolled in the District, the District shall permit a child who is enrolled in a home education program, a charter school, a cyber charter school, or a private school to access such physical examination or test. The District shall publish the dates and times of such physical examination or medical test in a publication of general circulation in the District and on its publicly accessible Internet website.

In the case of a child enrolled in a charter school or cyber charter school who participates in a District co-curricular activity, the District may charge the charter school or cyber charter school for the child’s participation, since these costs are part of the per-pupil payment that is paid by the District to charter schools and cyber charter schools. The fee shall be determined by the District on a cost basis using the expenses of the activity (including director/advisor, uniforms, transportation and miscellaneous costs), such that the District neither makes nor loses money.

The Superintendent shall prepare procedures to implement a co-curricular program.