

Rocky Hill
High School

CO-CURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES
HANDBOOK

Mission Statement

The mission of co-curricular activities at Rocky Hill High School is to aid in the academic, social, and emotional development of our students. Participation in co-curricular activities is an integral part of the academic program in that it fosters high expectations, team-building skills, self-discipline, and provides challenging experiences. Co-curricular activities stimulate the desire to achieve and maintain academic success while contributing to a positive school climate. Co-curricular activities require students to think critically, problem solve, manage time, and appreciate the talents and differing abilities of others. Through the development of these skills students involved in co-curricular activities will become confident, contributing members of the community.

Goals of the Co-Curricular Activities Program

- To provide as many students as possible the opportunity to participate in activities they enjoy.
- To foster academic and social achievement in students by emphasizing the importance of self-discipline, sacrifice and dedication to achieving goals.
- To develop in students the desire to continually improve through service to the school and the community.
- To develop in students emotional control, dependability and respect for rules and authority.
- To provide students the opportunity to work as a member of a group in order to achieve a goal, and, in the process, learn the importance of cooperation and teamwork.
- To foster self-worth and self-confidence in students.
- To provide students with experiences which require problem solving, decision-making, and critical thinking skills.
- To foster time-management skills in students.
- To provide students the opportunity to participate in activities with other students whose backgrounds and abilities may differ from their own.
- To develop in students a sense of school loyalty and generate school spirit.
- To develop within the community a sense of pride, loyalty and support for the students and the school.

Expectations for Participants in Co-Curricular Activities

Participation in co-curricular activities at Rocky Hill High School is a privilege. It should be deemed an honor to represent one's school and community in these activities. It is a participant's responsibility to adhere to all expectations set forth by the school. Participants must realize that often more is expected of them than other students.

All participants are expected to:

- Conform to all rules set forth by Rocky Hill High School, as well as the rules set forth by the respective activity.
- Act in a responsible manner, realizing that at all times, participants represent their school and community.
- Understand the importance of academics, and strive to establish and maintain satisfactory performance in the classroom.
- Adhere to the laws established by the local, state and federal governments.
- Refrain from participating in any act of hazing or any behavior which demeans or embarrasses another.
- Attend and arrive on time for all activities, even during school vacations.
- Abstain from the use of any form of alcohol/substance abuse.
- Leave situations where there is underage drinking or the illegal use of drugs.
- Refrain from using profanity or obscene language or gestures.
- Abstain from gambling at any activity.

Participants who fail to comply with these expectations may face disciplinary actions, including but not limited to dismissal from the activity.

Expectations for Parents

Parents are encouraged to support their children's co-curricular endeavors and recognize the importance of these activities in their children's lives. It is their responsibility to adhere to all expectations set forth by the school and this handbook.

All parents are expected to:

- Conform to all rules set forth by Rocky Hill High School as well as the rules set forth by the respective activity.
- Understand that academics are a priority over co-curricular activities and emphasize successful classroom performance.
- Support and be enthusiastic about their child's chosen activity.
- Be positive, helping their child understand the benefits of co-curricular participation.
- Express any concerns about their child's participation in a rational and appropriate manner to the appropriate authority.
- Encourage their child to do the best he/she can regardless of ability.
- Emphasize to their children that any act of hazing or any behavior that demeans or embarrasses another will not be tolerated.
- Ensure their child attends all activities during school vacations.

Expectations for Advisors

Advisors at Rocky Hill High School play an integral part in the education and development of our students. The impact they may have on the lives of their students is immeasurable. It is an advisor's responsibility to adhere to all expectations set forth by the school.

All advisors are expected to:

- Conform to all rules set forth by Rocky Hill High School, as well as the rules set forth by the respective activity.
- Understand the importance of academics and emphasize that participants establish and maintain satisfactory performance in the classroom.
- Act in a responsible manner, realizing that at all times, advisors represent their students, school, and community.
- Understand the importance of their position as a role model for their students.
- Be positive, helping their student understand the benefits of co-curricular participation.
- Respect and dignify each student as an individual.
- Promote conditions and circumstances that encourage each student to reach his/her full potential.
- Insist students abide by the expectations of the specific activity and by the activity's rules.
- Work with parents and school personnel to guarantee the best interests of his/her students.
- Communicate and work with appropriate booster organizations to maximize their benefit to the students.
- Demonstrate fair and unprejudiced relationships with all students.
- Encourage students to do their best regardless of ability.
- Refrain from participating in any act of hazing and not tolerate any such act by any student.
- Attend and arrive on time for all activities and provide adequate supervision of the students.

Advisors who fail to comply with these expectations may face disciplinary actions, including but not limited to removal from their advisor ship.

Activities/Clubs Offered:

Association of Students and Principals	French Club
Advocating Sexual Equality	Future Business Leaders of America
Anime Club	Freshman Leadership Advisory Group
Best Buddies	International Languages Honor Society
Biology Club	Jazz Band
Book Club	Literary & Humanities Student Magazine (<i>Paper Soul</i>)
Chamber Choir	Marching Band
Chorale	Math League
Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking	Model United Nations
Color Guard	National Art Honor Society
Common Ground	National Honor Society
Community Service Club	Newspaper (<i>The Broadside</i>)
Concert Band	Photography Club
Concert Choir	Poetry Slam Club
Conflict Simulations Club	SADD
Connecticut Youth Forum	Student Advisory Group
Creative Writing Club	Student Leadership Council
Diversity Club	Tri-M Music Honor Society
Drama Club	Yearbook (<i>Cumberland</i>)
Environmental Club	Young Educators' Society
Flag Corps	

Where sufficient interest exists, students may petition the administration for additional co-curricular activities. Application forms are available in the main office.

Conflict Resolution

Should a conflict arise between a participant or parent and an advisor, it is expected that they will work together to resolve the issue. Parents are encouraged to contact the appropriate advisor in such instances. If a resolution can not be reached, the advisor or parent should bring the issue to the attention of the advisor who will mediate the problem. If necessary, the advisor will refer any further problems to the high school administration.

Fundraising

Individual activities may be involved in fundraising. All fundraising activities must be approved by the administration and are planned at the end of the school year for the upcoming year to avoid conflicts.

Hazing

Hazing is any reckless or intentional act that humiliates, degrades, abuses, or endangers a person's physical or mental health for the purpose of initiation in or affiliation with an organization, regardless of that person's willingness to participate. Hazing by an individual or group is not permitted in any form and will not be tolerated. Students who participate in hazing will be punished by penalties including, but not limited to, dismissal from the activity. This

policy applies to all situations whether school is in session or not, and whether done in an activity setting or not. See Board of Education policy (5114 section III) for further information.

Officers

Club officers are selected or run for office. To be eligible for an officer position a student must:

- Have demonstrated leadership potential, dependability, and commitment to the activity;
- Have no failing grades on the most recent report card;
- Be a positive role model;
- Have no violation of a school rule that resulted in a suspension from school.

Officers who do not hold to the above standards may be removed as an officer after an informal hearing with the advisor and school administration.

Out of School Conduct

Co-curricular participants at Rocky Hill High School are expected to act in a legal and responsible manner, realizing that at all times, they are representing their school and activity. Conduct out of school which discredits or embarrasses Rocky Hill High school or any activity may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the activity. Further disciplinary action may also be taken if deemed appropriate by the school administration.

Substance Abuse

The use of smoking materials or any other tobacco product, any type of alcoholic product, or any narcotic or drug is absolutely forbidden. The possession of alcoholic beverages, any narcotics, or any drugs (except as noted in the student handbook as “Medication”) is also forbidden. All school rules and regulations regarding substance abuse are outlined in the student handbook and apply to participants at co-curricular activities. In addition co-curricular participants are not to be in the presence of and are expected to remove themselves from any situations of underage alcohol consumption or illegal use of drugs whether occurring on or off school grounds. Failure to comply with this requirement shall result in discipline up to and including removal from the activity. Any violation of school rules involving drugs or alcohol will result in dismissal from the activity. Any violation of a school rule involving smoking or other tobacco products will result in a two-activity suspension from the activity on the first offense, and dismissal from the activity on the second offense for the duration of the semester.

Suspension/Saturday Detention

Students suspended from school, (outside or in-school suspension) are not permitted to participate in, or attend any activity during the period of their suspension. Students assigned Saturday Detention may not participate in any event on that Saturday. In addition to school suspension/detention, advisors may impose penalties if warranted, up to and including dismissal from the activity.

Rocky Hill High School

INFORMED CONSENT: CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

I have received and reviewed a copy of the Co-Curricular Handbook and agree to abide by the rules and regulations therein.

I agree that I will remain drug and alcohol free while participating in all school activities. Furthermore, I agree to remove myself from any situations where there is underage drinking or illegal use of drugs on or off school property.

Note: Any violation of the school district's policies related to being in the Presence of underage drinking or illegal drug use, or to the possession or Use drugs and/or alcohol, on or off school property, will result in discipline, Including but not limited to REMOVAL FROM THE CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

I, the parent/guardian of _____ have received and reviewed a copy of the Co-Curricular Activities Handbook and agree to abide by the rules and regulations therein.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____