

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

(Waiver of High School Physical Education Curriculum and Graduation Requirement for High School Students Participating in District-Sponsored Interscholastic Athletics, Marching Band or Cheerleading)

As stated in Section 3313.603 of the Ohio Revised Code, students in grades 9-11 may be excused from the physical education course requirement by participating in District-sponsored interscholastic athletics, marching band or cheerleading for at least two athletic seasons during high school grades 9-11. The Ohio Revised Code defines District-sponsored interscholastic athletics, marching band or cheerleading as any high school athletic team, high school cheerleading squad or high school marching band of the Hilliard City School District that participates in the District's regular athletic season(s) (as such seasons are established under the rules and bylaws of the Ohio High School Athletic Association) and is operated under the supervision of a District employee. Club activities and/or club sports are not considered part of District-sponsored athletics, marching band or cheerleading.

High school students in grades 9-11 who meet this requirement shall not be required to complete any physical education course as a condition to graduate. In order to be eligible for graduation, a high school student who is excused from the high school physical education class requirement must complete at least 60 hours of instruction (one semester) in another course of study. Such 60 hours of instruction shall be separate from and in addition to all other courses of study and hours of instruction that are required to graduate.

At the conclusion of each season, coaches/band directors will submit a roster of students who have satisfactorily completed the season (a minimum of 60 contact hours). The guidance office of each high school will track and record this information.

A high school student who has not fulfilled his/her physical education requirement prior to the beginning of his/her senior year will be scheduled into a physical education class. Participation in District-sponsored interscholastic athletics, marching band or cheerleading during the senior year cannot be used to fulfill the physical education graduation requirement.

A high school student who has earned physical education credit prior to the start of the 2009-2010 school year can finish the physical education requirement either through completion of another physical education course or through participation in two athletic seasons. Participation in District-sponsored interscholastic athletics, marching band or cheerleading seasons prior to the 2009-2010 school year cannot be used to fulfill the physical education requirement.

Participating in District-sponsored interscholastic athletics, marching band and/or cheerleading is a privilege and not a right. This policy shall not in anyway be construed as granting a student the right to participate in such District-sponsored interscholastic athletics, marching band and/or cheerleading. A student who participates in District-sponsored interscholastic athletics, marching band and/or cheerleading and is excused from the physical education course requirement pursuant to this policy earns no high school credit for such participation, and any and all District rules and policies, including, but not limited to, the Code of Conduct for Student Participation in Extracurricular Activities continue to apply in full and without limitation to such student's ability to participate or to continue to participate in District-sponsored interscholastic athletics, marching band and/or cheerleading. In addition, any student so participating pursuant to this policy shall be subject to any athletic fee and/or "Pay-to-Participate" fee and, pursuant to other Board policy and/or rules, nonpayment of any such fee(s) will result in denial of participation in the activity.

(Approval date: January 12, 2009)