

Policy

Egg Harbor Township Board of Education

5850

SOCIAL EVENTS AND CLASS TRIPS

The Board of Education recognizes the value of social events and student trips that will enhance and enrich the school experience for the pupils of this district.

For purposes of this policy, a "social event" is a party, celebration, or dance organized for the participation of pupils, and "student trips" are trips taken by pupils in a single graduating class, pupils who share a particular interest in an activity, or pupils who are enrolled in a particular subject area. Social events and student trips are not related or are only indirectly related to the curriculum.

The Board will make school facilities available and assign staff members as appropriate for the conduct of social events on school premises that have been approved by the Principal and for social events and student trips away from school premises that have been approved by the Principal. A social event or student trip may be considered to have been approved by this Board only when the Board has duly assigned one or more chaperones to supervise participating pupils. The Board will assume no responsibility for a pupil social event or trip that has not been approved in accordance with this policy.

The Board will not approve a social event or student trip that has the effect of reducing the school year for participating pupils to fewer than one hundred eighty days.

The Board reserves the right to cancel any scheduled trip.

Social events or student trips are not part of the thorough and efficient system of education provided the Board. Participation in them is therefore not a right and may be denied to any pupil without the due process of notice and an opportunity to be heard. A pupil who demonstrates disregard for school rules may summarily be denied participation in social events and student trips.

Pupils who participate in approved social events and student trips are subject to district rules for pupil conduct and must submit to the authority of assigned chaperones. Infractions of the rules will be subject to discipline in the same manner as are infractions of rules during the regular school program.

A pupil who possesses or consumes alcohol or drugs in the course of an approved social event or student trip will be deemed to have placed all other participating pupils at risk and shall be immediately dismissed from the event or trip. Any such pupil will be returned home by appropriate and safe means of transportation in the company of a chaperone, the pupil's parent or legal guardian, or a representative of the pupil's parent or legal guardian. Any expenses incurred by the dismissal will be the responsibility of the pupil and/or the pupil's parent or legal guardian.

The Superintendent will develop regulations governing the conduct and safety of all participants in social events and student trips and will distribute them to pupil and adult participants.

The Board of Education will require a signed agreement/release for each student, employee (including but not limited to: teacher, driver, coach, advisor) and chaperone that will attend a student trip either out of state or greater than sixty (60) miles from school during a period of "High Condition/Orange Alert" or "Severe Condition/Red Alert" as indicated by the Homeland Security Advisory System. The release form can be located under the corresponding regulations. Any student, parent/guardian, employee or chaperone refusing to sign this agreement/release will be prevented from participating in the student trip.

In the event that the U. S. Office of Homeland Security identifies the departure and/or arrival location or route or mode of transportation as a specific target for an act of terrorism, the Superintendent, after consultation with the Board President and/or the Board Vice-President, will cancel the previously approved trip. The Board and district will assume no liability to anyone for reimbursement for any costs or expenses incurred by any trip for which the superintendent and/or Board withdraws its approval.

Approved: 10/22/2002

Revised: 1/13/2004

Revised: 6/8/2004