

<b>Number:</b>	<i>to be determined</i>
<b>Topic:</b>	<b>Co-instructional Activities</b>
<b>Effective:</b>	<b>September 1, 2002</b>
<b>Cross Reference:</b>	<b>Education Act S170 (1) SS (7.1, 7.2)</b>
<b>Revision Date:</b>	<b>January, 2009</b>
<b>RESPONSIBILITY:</b>	<b>Superintendent of Education (School Operations)</b>

**INTENDED PURPOSE:**

Our schools promote excellence both inside and outside the classroom. Opportunities for students to participate in school-based extra-curricular activities outside the classroom enhance student learning and success. Extra-curricular activities include activities such as intramural physical activities, inter-school athletics, and arts and cultural activities that are provided for students outside the regular instructional program and may be considered voluntary for staff. Research shows that students who participate in extra-curricular activities enjoy greater overall success and have a lower dropout rate. Qualities such as self-esteem, self-confidence, co-operation, and leadership, are enhanced and developed through these activities. Values such as honesty, integrity and fairness are stressed both inside and outside the classroom as well as outcomes like team and skill development.

According to the Education Act S170 (1) SS (7.1,7.2) school boards must develop and implement a plan to provide co-instructional activities for pupils enrolled in elementary and secondary schools operated by the board.

Under the Ministry of Education Guidelines for School Boards in the Provision of Co-instructional Activities, “the board plan shall be a framework within which principals, working co-operatively with teachers, school council, and members of the community, will develop and implement their own school plans” for the provision of co-instructional activities.

**PROCEDURES:**

The Halton District School Board approves the development of a Co-instructional Activity Plan for each school, which shall:

- ◆ Include all extra-curricular activities in the areas of intramural physical activities, inter-school athletics, arts and cultural events
- ◆ Conform to all Board Policies and Procedures
- ◆ Require that the interests of students and the needs of the community are addressed within the human and physical resources available
- ◆ Provide equitable access to extra-curricular activities for all students, including students with special needs, differing abilities and interests
- ◆ Allow staff to continue to work co-operatively with organizations outside the board to enhance student learning
- ◆ Support teachers as officers, directors and committee members of school, regional and provincial activities and challenges that promote extra-curricular activities (e.g., Think Bowl, Skill Olympics, Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations or OFSAA, PHE Canada Challenge Awards, Battle of the Books, Band Share, School Reach)

It is the Halton District School Board's expectation that school principals prepare, to the extent possible, a yearly plan in each school by:

- ◆ Utilizing the above requirements and conditions
- ◆ Considering the interests and needs of students of diverse backgrounds
- ◆ Taking into account the skills of staff and/or community members
- ◆ Consulting with teachers, School Councils, students, and community members and volunteers
- ◆ Providing information to school communities at the beginning of the school year that describe an outline of extra-curricular activities
- ◆ Ensuring that all extra-curricular activities conform to board and ministry policies and procedures as well as to the Halton District School Board's Code of Behaviour