

Private School/Home-Based Education: District Program Options for Students

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Students who are residents of this school district but who are attending private schools or home-based education programs are eligible for some programs and services provided by the School District of Lodi. This includes participation in:

Shared Time Programs: Non-required (elective) courses as defined in statutes. Participation is only limited by class size limits. To access these programs, a written request must be submitted to the building principal a minimum of 45 days prior to the beginning of the course.

District Testing Programs: Parents must make a written request directly to the DPI to participate in the Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) program for students in grades 3, 4, 8 and 10. If a parent wishes to have their child participate in any other district testing program they must make a written request to the building principal a minimum of 45 days before the testing program begins. Parents will be assessed a charge to cover the cost of the test materials and scoring service.

Special Education Services: Private school or home-based education students may be referred to the Student Services division for assessment to see if the student qualifies as having an exceptional educational need. After required forms are completed and parental consent is obtained, the Director of Student Services or his/her designee shall determine the appropriate site for testing, i.e. private school, home or district facility.

Notification: Private schools that meet the criteria as defined in s.118.165 should be aware of the options noted above. A notice will be sent directly to parents pertaining to the above options anytime the district is informed of a student's involvement in other private schools/home-based educational programs.

- I. **Non-Public/Home-School Student Co-Curricular Participation – Middle School Level**
Co-curricular activity participation plays a significant role in the total educational development of young men and women. These programs provide opportunities to channel the interests and talents of students into positive efforts for the betterment of themselves and the community as a whole. The School District of Lodi offers a wide range of co-curricular activities for middle school students.

Given the benefits of co-curricular activity participation, it is the policy of the School District of Lodi to allow non-public/home-school middle school students, including private school students, and parochial school students, to participate in the co-curricular activities offered at the middle school level by the District. Such participation shall be governed by this policy and the School District of Lodi's "Student Co-Curricular General Code of Conduct" (Code of Conduct).

If the district middle school is a member of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association non-public/home-school students cannot participate or practice with a district supported athletic co-curricular activity.

All non-public/home-school students of middle school age (grades 7-8) who reside in the School District of Lodi may participate in the co-curricular activities offered by the District at the middle school level provided that such students satisfy minimum eligibility requirements and provided that enough space exists within a co-curricular program to accommodate such students.

The parent(s)/guardian(s) of non-public school students who wish to participate in a District-sponsored co-curricular activity at the middle-school level must contact the District Administrator to express such interest at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the co-curricular activity. The District Administrator will acquire any information relevant to determining the students' initial eligibility for such participation.

All non-public/home-school middle school students who meet the eligibility requirements and have paid designated district fees and who are permitted to participate in District-sponsored co-curricular activities will be provided with the equipment/materials necessary for participation or will be granted the temporary use of any such equipment/materials owned by the District to the extent that such equipment/materials are regularly provided to or used by public school students participating in the same activity.

All of the middle school co-curricular activities listed in the Code of Conduct shall be governed by the terms of this policy. All students are reminded that participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right.

Eligibility Requirements

Non-public/home-school middle school students wishing to participate in a District-sponsored middle school co-curricular activity must satisfy minimum eligibility requirements as set forth in the Code of Conduct. Such students must verify their academic eligibility for initial and continued participation in a co-curricular activity by turning in grade sheets signed by their teachers (or parent(s)/guardian(s) if a home-schooled student) in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Grade sheet forms will be made available by the District to any non-public/home-school middle school student who wishes to certify their initial or continued eligibility for co-curricular activity participation in the District pursuant to the Code.

Non-public/home-school middle school students who are permitted to participate in a co-curricular activity at the middle-school level are not guaranteed the right to participate in any other co-curricular activity in that year or in any year following. Such students must assert their interest in participating in each co-curricular activity separately during the school year. Eligibility and space criteria, as set forth in this policy and the Code of Conduct, will be used in determining whether such students will be permitted to participate in the co-curricular activity in which they have expressed an interest.

Space Considerations:

Middle school students who are District residents and who attend public school in the District shall be given first preference with regard to participation in co-curricular activities. Non-public/home-school middle school students will be allowed to participate in co-curricular activities provided that enough space in each co-curricular program remains after all public school students who wish

to participate are accommodated.

In those activities where the space for participants is limited, the District will first accommodate public middle school students and then will try to make accommodations for non-public/home-school middle school students so as to create participation opportunities for all those who wish to participate. However, in the event that more non-public/home-school students wish to participate than are spaces available for participation, non-public/home-school students who have a sibling already attending public school in the District will be given priority as compared to other non-public school students.

If space in a co-curricular program remains after the District accommodates public school students and non-public/home-school students who have a sibling attending public school in the District, a lottery system will be used to select other non-public/home school middle school students to fill the remaining spaces. If a lottery system is necessary for such purpose, the District Administrator will oversee its administration.

Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Action:

All non-public/home-school middle school students who desire to participate in any co-curricular activity sponsored by the District must agree to be bound by the same Code of Conduct to which all public school students are bound with regard to co-curricular activity participation. In addition, violations of such Code by non-public/home-school students will be addressed pursuant to the procedures in the Code and may lead to the termination of the non-public/home-school students' privilege of participating in District-sponsored co-curricular activities as specified by the Code. All students who are permitted to participate in District-sponsored co-curricular activities shall be provided with a copy of the Code of Conduct prior to participation and must sign the "Student-Parent Agreement" as representation of their agreement to abide by such rules and procedures. Additionally, all such students must also abide by the rules and conditions set forth by their coaches/instructors for continued eligibility and participation in each co-curricular activity in which they may participate.

Transportation:

It is the policy of the District to provide transportation to public and non-public/home-school students who participate in co-curricular activities when such activities take place away from public school grounds.

Parents/guardians of non-public/home-school middle school students who are participating in District-sponsored co-curricular activities will be responsible for transporting such students to and from practices and activity events that take place on or in School District of Lodi. If an activity is scheduled to take place away from School District of Lodi facilities, the parents/guardians of participating non-public/home-school students will be responsible for getting such students to and from the site where the District-provided transportation departs/arrives for such activities.

Any questions with regard to this policy may be directed to the District Administrator or his/her designee.

Home Based Education Co-Curricular Participation – High School

High School age students who are attending a home based private education program registered with the School District of Lodi and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and live within the attendance boundary of the School District of Lodi will be allowed to participate in sponsored W.I.A.A. sports program after meeting the following requirements:

1. Parent must submit letter to high school principal/athletic director/DPI registered home based

- private education program, within the boundaries of the School District of Lodi.
2. Parent must submit acknowledgement they received copy of school co-curricular code handbook.
 3. Student must complete required pre-participation physical exam requirement.
 4. Parent must complete athletic emergency notification form.
 5. Parent must acknowledge receipt of W.I.A.A. Rules of Eligibility.
 6. Parent must provide documentation of student age in form of valid birth certificate.
 7. Parent must submit grade reports on regular 9 week and semester basis indicating student is meeting academic requirements of district co-curricular code.
 8. Parent and participating student acknowledge they were informed and are aware all W.I.A.A. Rules of eligibility apply to their Home Based Private Education athlete participation at Lodi High School with the exception of full time enrollment in the School District of Lodi.
 9. All Board of Education approved fees related to athletic/co-curricular participation shall be paid/deferred, if applicable, before student can participate in selected athletic/co-curricular activity.

Legal References:

- s.115.001(3g)
- s.115.002 (3g)
- s.115.001 (3r)
- s.118.15
- s.118.165
- s.118.167
- s.118.30