

Students

**SUBJECT: HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY**

The number one priority of the Cato-Meridian Central School is to educate the whole child, first by stimulating the child intellectually and then by providing a number of common experiences designed to develop the social, emotional, physical and ethical values necessary to be a productive member of society. Co-curricular programs help to provide such experiences and are, therefore, considered an integral part of the total educational program. Involvement in co-curricular activities can have a positive influence on the academic achievement of students. However, "academics" must always come first. To accomplish this objective, an eligibility standard has been established.

1. Students' grades will be reviewed after each progress report period and each marking period (generally every five weeks).
2. Students who meet the class average of 70% or higher (65% for students with a disability), yet are failing one class, will be deemed eligible.
3. Students who have a 64 in a course will be placed on probationary status. They will be allowed to continue to participate/compete, however, their grades and effort will be reviewed weekly. Continued failure and/or lack of effort will result in automatic ineligibility.
4. Students who meet the class average of 70% or better (65% for students with a disability), yet are failing the same core course (math, science, English, social studies) for ten consecutive weeks, will be deemed ineligible. The only exception to this will be an elective core course not required for graduation.
5. Students failing two or more classes will be deemed ineligible for five weeks, regardless of the class average.
6. Students who fail two or more courses for the last marking period will be ineligible for two weeks in September (three weeks if summer school is needed yet the student chooses not to attend or fails multiple courses in summer school). For the purpose of extra-curricular activities that begin prior to September, the ineligibility will begin when the activity (season) begins.
7. Passing a course in summer school will erase any pending ineligibility period in September only for that course.
8. Students will be deemed in good standing once they are no longer ineligible.
9. Appeals to the principal must be in writing *and* can only be made/upheld if the student substantiates that an error was made when calculating the grade.

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10. The superintendent or his/her designee has final authority to determine eligibility status for activities or situations not delineated under this policy.
  
11. This policy is applicable to students in grades 9 through 12. The Academic Eligibility Policy for middle school students takes precedent for middle school students; hence any student who is attending middle school and participating at the junior varsity or the varsity level in a 9 through 12 sport will adhere to the Middle School Academic Eligibility Policy, not the High School Academic Eligibility Policy.

Adopted: 7/6/10

Re-Adopted: 6/18/12; 11/5/12; 5/28/13; 8/10/15; 8/13/18; 9/16/19