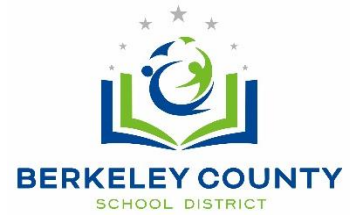


To: Parents and students of Charter Schools and Home Schools

Fr: Brian J. Roney, District Athletic Director

Re: Participation in Extracurricular Activities



Dear Parents and Students,

The value of extracurricular activities upon students' wellbeing has been validated through many research studies, and Berkeley County School District stands strong in our advocacy for these programs. It is in these vital programs that young people learn lifelong lessons as important as those taught in the classroom; lessons about leadership, teamwork, communication, and commitment, to name a few. These extracurricular activities support the academic mission of our schools, are inherently educational, and foster success in later life.

Two statutes concerning participation in District activities were recently signed into law by the Governor. The laws allow charter school students, home school students, and governor's school students to participate in the District's extracurricular and interscholastic activities. Provided certain eligibility requirements are satisfied, these students may participate at the student's residence-zoned school. Our efforts are to support these laws and to ensure a seamless transition into the programs at our schools.

Extracurricular activities are associated with the curriculum, and sponsored by the district, but carry no academic weight. Interscholastic activities are extracurricular activities involving competition between schools. To participate in an activity, a student must complete the "Extracurricular/Interscholastic Activity Participation Application and Permission Form" and include all required documentation listed within that form. This form can be obtained at any school, on our webpage at www.berkeley.k12.sc.us, or directly from the Office of Athletics. Once the form is submitted in its entirety, the Office of Athletics will notify both the student involved, and the appropriate school that the application is complete.

Our mission is to ignite in every student a passion for life-long learning by fostering opportunities for each student to build a legacy of success. We believe our extracurricular activities contribute directly toward this legacy, and look forward to working with you and your student. We welcome you to Berkeley County School District and wish you well. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Roney