

Non-curriculum-related Student Group Meetings

Pursuant to the Equal Access Act, the board authorizes non-curriculum-related secondary student groups to meet before or after school, subject to the approval of the principal. Such approval will be granted provided that activities of the group are not disruptive to school operations and the members of the group comply with the rules established by the superintendent and school principals. The board authorizes the superintendent to develop administrative procedures to create or maintain a “limited open forum.”

1. Approval

The principal shall approve the non-curriculum-related student meeting or activity provided that:

- 1.1 The meeting shall be voluntary and initiated by students.
- 1.2. The school or its staff shall not be a sponsor of the group
- 1.3. The meeting will not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly operation of the school.
- 1.4. Students shall be responsible for the direction, control and conduct of the meeting. Guests must be registered with the building principal.
- 1.5. The meeting or activity shall be free from any sectarian control or influence and shall not involve any religious worship, exercise or instruction, or the support of any religious establishment.
- 1.6. The use of school funds for other than incidental and/or monitoring costs shall not be permitted.
- 1.7. A staff member shall not be compelled to attend when the meeting is contrary to his/her belief.
- 1.8. The constitutional rights of any person shall be respected and shall not be abridged.

2. Application

A group of students who wish to conduct a meeting on school premises before or after school shall submit a request to the school principal at least five (5) school-business days prior to the desired meeting date. The principal will grant or deny the request at least two (2) school-business days prior to the scheduled date.

The application shall provide:

- 2.1 the name of each student who is making the request;
- 2.2 the name of the monitor of the proposed group (if any);
- 2.3 a description of the proposed meeting along with its stated purpose;
- 2.4 the name(s) and affiliations of non-students (if any) who will be invited;
- 2.5 statements that:
 - 2.5.1 Students shall be voluntarily attending the meeting;
 - 2.5.2 Any non-students shall not be directing, conducting, controlling, or regularly attending future meetings and/or activities; and
- 2.6 the time and frequency of meetings for the proposed group.

The principal shall have the authority to assign a room and to approve and/or assign a staff member to monitor the meeting.

Cross References:

- (cf.: 2150 – Co-curricular and Non-curricular Activity Program)
- (cf.: 2340 – Religious-Related Activities and Practices)
- (cf.: 3210 – Nondiscrimination and Complaint)
- (cf.: 3511 – Secondary Student Group Meetings)

Legal References:

- 20 U.S.C. 4071-4074 Equal Access Act
- Wash. Const. Art. I
- Wash. Const. Art. II

Adoption Date:

- 931116
- 011016
- 090518