

NONCURRICULUM-RELATED STUDENT GROUPS

Pursuant to the Equal Access Act, the board authorizes noncurriculum-related student groups to meet before or after school, subject to the approval of the principal. Such approval shall 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/or school principal. The board authorizes the superintendent to develop administrative procedures to create or maintain this "limited open forum."

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

1. The meeting shall be voluntary and initiated by students.
2. The school or its staff shall not be a sponsor of the group.
3. The meeting shall not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly operation of the school.
4. Students shall be responsible for the direction, control and conduct of the meeting. Guests must be registered and must not be regular participants.
5. The use of school funds for other than incidental and/or monitoring costs shall not be permitted.
6. A staff member shall not be compelled to attend when the meeting is contrary to his/her belief.
7. The constitutional rights of all persons shall be respected.

The principal shall be responsible for the assignment of a room and for the approval and/or assignment of a staff member to monitor the meeting.

Cross References:

Board Policy 2150

Co-curricular Program

Legal References:

20 U.S.C. 4071-4074
Wash. Const. Art. I, § 11
Wash. Const. Art. IX, § 4

Equal Access Act

Adoption Date:

Noncurriculum-Related Student Groups

A group of students who wish to conduct a meeting on school premises during noninstructional time shall submit a request to the school principal at least five school-business days prior to the desired meeting date. The principal will grant or deny the request at least two school-business days prior to the scheduled date.

The application shall provide:

1. The name of each student who is making the request,
2. The name of the monitor of the proposed group (if any),
3. A description of the proposed meeting along with its stated purpose,
4. The name(s) and affiliations of non-students (if any) who will be invited,
5. Statements that:
 - a. Students shall be voluntarily attending the meeting,
 - b. Any non-students shall not be directing, conducting, controlling or regularly attending future meetings and/or activities,
6. The time and frequency of meetings for the proposed group.