

NONCURRICULUM-RELATED STUDENT GROUPS

Pursuant to the Equal Access Act, the board authorizes noncurriculum-related student groups to meet before, after school or during noninstructional time, 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."

Noncurriculum related student activities are 1) defined as those activities which do not meet the criteria of Policy 2150; and/or 2) those activities which are designed to involve political, philosophical, religious, controversial, ideological, or other speech-oriented messages (as opposed to function-oriented clubs and activities).

These clubs will be recognized by the school, but no School District sponsorship or endorsement shall occur or be construed by such recognition. Such recognition shall be limited to the purpose of providing equal access to school facilities and to complying with the Equal Access Act. Each school shall make sure that sufficient disclaimers of such endorsement or sponsorship shall be made by each club on announcements and other club listings as deemed appropriate to prevent a message of School District sponsorship or endorsement.

The principal or his/her designee shall approve the noncurriculum-related student meeting or activity provided that:

- A. The meeting shall be voluntary and initiated by students;
- B. The school or its staff shall not be a sponsor, lead, promote or be an active participant in the group;
- C. The meeting shall not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly operation of the school;
- D. Students shall be responsible for the direction, control and conduct of the meeting. Guests must be registered and must not be regular participants;
- E. The use of public funds for other than incidental and/or monitoring costs shall not be permitted. Funds acquired by non-curriculum related student groups shall be held in an associated student body account which shall be accessible by that student group;
- F. A staff member shall not be compelled to attend when the meeting is contrary to his/her belief.; and
- G. 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.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. 4071-4074 Equal Access Act
Wash. Const. Art. I, § 11
Wash. Const. Art. IX, § 4