

Section 8000 – Students

8720 Non-School-Sponsored Student Clubs and Organizations

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The District encourages students to broaden their knowledge and citizenship by the formation of clubs and other groups organized to promote or pursue specialized activities outside the regular classroom environment, and not related directly to the curriculum, provided membership is open to all interested and eligible students from the District, approval of the building Principal is obtained. By way of limited example, a non school-sponsored student club would be those such as: Ski Club, Chess Club, Bowling Club, Pep or Spirit Club, Hobby Clubs, and the like having no direct connection to the curriculum.

Meetings and Membership

Non school-sponsored/non-curricular related student clubs shall not conduct their activities on school property without prior permission from the Principal. Persons who are not students in this District shall not be allowed membership in any non school-sponsored student organization.

Student Equal Access

Student initiated, non-curricular related groups shall be permitted to conduct voluntary meetings on high school premises only before or after the school day, provided that the meetings do not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the educational activities of the school or violate Board policy or state or federal law.

Such meetings shall be open to all students without regard to race, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and expression, height, weight, color, religion, national origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, disability or veteran status.

No public funds may be expended on behalf of the non-curricular related student groups covered by this policy except for the incidental cost of providing space for their meetings.

Students seeking to establish a voluntary, non-curriculum related student group shall first seek approval of the building Principal. Should the Principal not approve the student group, the students may submit a written request to the Superintendent within ten days of the notice of denial for a review of the Principal's decision. Should the Superintendent deny permission, the Superintendent's decision may be appealed to the Board of Education. The Board's decision shall be final.

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8720-2

Federal Compliance

The District will comply with the provisions of the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, and will not discriminate against or deny access to groups protected by the Act.

Student Social Events

Student social events, such as dances and parties, contribute an important element in the development of the individual. All such events sponsored by non school-sponsored student clubs or organizations must have the prior approval of the building Principal and the un-official, non-participating advisor of the club or class sponsoring the event.

Student social events shall be held, normally, after the last regular class period during the school day unless otherwise approved by the building Principal during other, non-instructional times before school or during the lunch period.

Unless otherwise specifically approved by the Board, attendance at all social functions, regardless of the organization sponsoring or promoting the social event, is limited to students of the District and guests approved by the Building Administrator.

Approved: March 7, 2016

LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1299; 20 USCA §4071, et seq. (Equal Access Act); 20 USCA §7905 (Boy Scout Equal Access Act).