

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Student-initiated, noncurriculum-related groups and student curriculum-related groups, upon receiving permission from the principal, may use school facilities for group meetings during non-instructional time.

Non-instructional time shall mean any time before the first period in the day and after the last period of the day in which any student attends class. Meetings shall not interfere with the orderly conduct of the educational program or other school district operations. It shall be within the discretion of the building principal to determine whether the meetings will interfere with the orderly conduct of the educational program or other school district operations. Activities relating to and part of the educational program shall have priority over the activities of any other organization.

Curriculum-Related Organizations

It shall also be the responsibility of the building principal to determine whether a student group is curriculum-related. Any of the following questions will be answered affirmatively if the group is curriculum-related:

- Is the subject matter of the group actually taught in a regularly offered course?
- Will the subject matter of the group soon be taught in a regularly offered course?
- Does the subject matter of the group concern the body of courses as a whole?
- Is participation in the group required for a particular course?
- Does participation in the group result in academic credit?

Curriculum-related student organizations may use the school facilities for meetings and other purposes before and after the instructional school day. School district personnel shall be assigned to monitor approved meetings and may interact with curriculum-related organizations.

Noncurriculum-Related Organizations

Student initiated noncurriculum-related organizations shall be provided access to meeting space and school facilities.

Only students may attend and participate in meetings of noncurriculum-related groups. Such attendance shall be strictly voluntary and student-initiated. As a means of determining whether a student's attendance is voluntary, the school principal may require parental consent for the student to attend the meetings.

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School district personnel will be assigned to monitor approved meetings. School district personnel shall not participate in the meeting or assist in planning, criticizing, or encouraging attendance. Non-school persons cannot direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities or meetings of these noncurriculum-related, student-initiated groups.

Legal Reference: Westside Community Board of Education v. Mergens, 110 S.Ct. 2345 (1990).
 Bender v. Williamsport Area Community School District, 741 F.2d 538 (3d Cir. 1984), vacated and remanded on other grounds, 475 U.S. 534 (1986).
 20 U.S.C. §§4071 et seq. (1995).
 Iowa Code §§287.1-.3, 297.9

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 504 Student Activities

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