

INSTRUCTION

Noncurriculum-Related Student Groups

Procedure A – Classification of Student Groups, Curriculum Related and Noncurriculum Related

1. A curriculum-related student group is a group whose activities satisfy the conditions and criteria established in Procedure B.
2. A noncurriculum-related group is a group meeting for purposes not directly related to the school curriculum, and is a group conducting an activity involving subject matter that a public school does not generally sponsor, and is a group whose activities satisfy the conditions and criteria established in Procedure C.

In determining whether or not a student group be considered for curricular treatment pursuant to Procedure B or non-curricular treatment pursuant to Procedure C, the principal or designated representative of the building should consider the criteria for establishing curriculum and noncurriculum groups set forth in Procedures B and C.

Procedure B – Curriculum-Related Groups

Interested students and a proposed staff member-sponsor may seek approval and recognition of an activity as a curriculum-related activity from the school principal. Each approved group shall operate under the guidelines set forth by the principal, relating, but not limited to, objectives, membership, supervision, proposed activities and funding.

The criteria to be used by the principal for approving curriculum-related activities are:

1. The purpose and/or objectives shall fit within established curricular guidelines and reflect one or more of the SLO's adopted for a course. The activity/group must be endorsed annually by one or more curricular departments, i.e., must be construed to contribute to student achievement and success in any course, must fall within the definitions of activities as outline in Policy 2150, and/or must have a visible and direct connection to the curriculum;
2. The participating students shall be currently enrolled in a related course or program or possess the entry level knowledge and/or skills to successfully participate in the activity;

3. The group shall be supervised by a qualified staff member and have faculty guidance and participation;
4. All activity must take place on school premises unless approved in advance by the school principal; and
5. The activity must not be secretive in nature.

Recognized curriculum-related groups shall have use of school facilities and equipment under terms set forth by the school principal.

Application for recognition as an approved curriculum-related activity shall be made on the form attached hereto as Exhibit B-2.

Exhibit B-2 Application for Recognition

As an approved Curriculum-Related Activity

The undersigned students hereby request recognition as an approved curriculum-related group for the 20__ school year under the conditions specified in Procedure B.

The activity is essential to the basic school program of developing student leadership, academic achievement, social skills, cultural activities, or is an extension of or related to _____ (name of class or classes).

Objectives of curriculum-related activity

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Proposed activities:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Advisor/staff member _____

Meeting area _____

Meeting schedule _____

Anticipated financial needs _____

Source of funds _____

Students' signatures

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Staff member's signature _____ Date _____

Request: Approved _____ Denied _____

Reason if denied _____

Principal's signature _____ Date _____

Procedure C – Noncurriculum-Related Student Groups

Pursuant to the Federal Equal Access Act, the board authorizes a limited open forum in which noncurriculum-related groups may meet before or after school, subject to the approval of the principal. Such approval shall be granted provided that activities of the group shall not be disruptive to school operations and the members of the group comply with the rules established by the superintendent and/or school principals.

- A. The principal shall approve the noncurriculum-related, non-ASB approved 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. The term “sponsor” includes the act of promoting, leading, or participating in a meeting. The assignment of a teacher, administrator, or other school employee to a meeting for custodial purposes does not constitute sponsorship of the meeting.
 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 attendees.
 5. Students shall not be required to participate in any religious activity.
 6. The use of school funds for other than incidental and/or monitoring costs shall not be permitted.
 7. A staff member shall not be compelled to attend when the meeting is contrary to his/her belief.
 8. The constitutional rights of any person shall not be abridged.
 9. Employees or agents of the school shall be present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity.
- B. The board recognizes that the basic purpose of the Equal Access Act is to insure that all noncurriculum-related student groups have equal access to the school buildings for meeting purposes. Nothing herein shall prevent a noncurriculum-related student group from seeking recognition as an approved associated student body program. The requirements to be met to receive associated student body approval shall be as follows:

1. The group shall meet all conditions as established in the Associated Student Body bylaws and constitution; and
 2. The approval of the group shall not violate any constitutional or statutory standards.
- C. The principal or his/her designated representative shall be responsible for assignment of a room and meeting times for noncurriculum-related student groups. The principal or his/her designated representative shall be responsible for the approval and/or assignment of a staff member to monitor meetings of noncurriculum-related student groups, provided that the assignment of staff members to monitor meetings of noncurriculum, non-ASB approved student groups shall be in accordance with the principles set forth in paragraph A.2 above.

Noncurriculum-Related Student Groups – Application

A group of students who wish to conduct a meeting or meetings on school premises before or after school shall submit a request to the school principal. Groups may be required to wait up to five school days before meeting to assure adequate custodial oversight and facility coordination. The principal shall give a timely response to the application.

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 affiliation(s) 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.
 - c. The monitor, if such is a religious group, shall not participate.
6. The time and frequency of meetings for the proposed groups.

Application shall be made on the form attached hereto as Exhibit C-3.

EXHIBIT C-3

Application for Approval as a Noncurriculum-Related Activity

The undersigned students hereby request recognition as an approved noncurriculum-related group for the 20__ school year under the conditions specified in policy.

Proposed name of activity or group: _____

Purposes and objectives of 1. _____

Activity or group: 2. _____

3. _____

Proposed activities: 1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Staff monitor of proposed group _____

(to be named and approved by principal)

Meeting area (to be assigned by principal) _____

Meeting schedule _____

The undersigned students give assurance that:

1. Students shall be voluntarily attending the meeting(s).
2. Non-students must be registered and shall not be directing, conducting, controlling, or regularly attending future meetings and/or activities.
3. The monitor shall not be expected to be an active participant.
4. Failure to comply with the rules and regulations regarding these meetings may be cause for suspension of the right to meet, at the discretion of the principal or higher designated representative.

Student signatures _____

Request: Approved _____ Denied _____

Reason, if denial _____

Principal's signature _____

NO SANCTION BY THE SCHOOL IS IMPLIED TO A GROUP BY REASON OF APPROVAL OF THIS APPLICATION.

Contests for Students

Contests may be made available to students by outside organizations through the schools, subject to certain limitations. The superintendent shall determine that the contest is not in conflict with nor will it diminish the primary educational aims of the schools and that it meets the needs and interests of students.

The schools shall confine their participation to those national contests which are currently placed on the approved list published annually by the Committee on National Contests and Activities of the National Association of Secondary School Principals or which have been approved by the superintendent or designee.

A state or local contest in which students participate shall be:

1. One that supplements and does not interfere with the regular school program.
2. One that is beneficial to youth in educational, civic, social, or ethical development.
3. One that makes it possible for individual students to work out contributions by their own efforts and does not invite dishonest collaboration.
4. One whose subject is not commercial, controversial, sectarian, or concerned with propaganda. It must emphasize high moral standards, good citizenship, and intellectual competence.
5. One from which no contestant shall be excluded because of race, color, creed, sex, or payment of entry fee.
6. One which does not place an undue burden on students, teachers or the school, nor requires frequent or lengthy absence of participants from the school.
7. One sponsored by an organization engaged in a creditable or acceptable enterprise regardless of kind or amount of prizes offered. The contest or activity must not be used as a "front" for advertising a company name or product.

Approved: September 25, 1985

Revised: May 23, 2001