

INSTRUCTION

Organization/Associations

Student organizations contributing to learning shall be encouraged. Such organizations shall operate within the framework of the law, board policy, administrative rules, and the parameters of the learning program. When such organizations are truly contributive, their establishment and operation shall be facilitated in reasonable ways by district staff and through utilization of district resources. No new student organization will be formed without the prior approval of the Board of Education.

The Superintendent shall develop general guidelines for student organizations. Among other provisions, such guidelines shall require the assignment of at least one faculty advisor to each student organization and the approval by the Board of Education of any student organization.

This policy applies to in-school organizations only. It is not intended to restrict the organization of students into groups which function apart from the school.

Student Government

In order to encourage student participation in the various activities of school life and to provide opportunity for training in democratic processes, the middle and high schools shall maintain and operate school councils.

Student government shall be of the students, by the students, for the students representing all students in the school in communication with the administration and in the organization of student activities.

The school councils shall assist in improving the general welfare of all students and shall give students the opportunity to participate in the orderly workings of the democratic process.

Members of the school councils shall be elected democratically. The rights and responsibilities of the council shall be clearly set forth. Faculty advisors for the school council will be recommended for appointment by the administration.

The school councils shall not have authority to make policies for the district or regulations for the school. Nor shall they have any disciplinary authority, except for recommending removal from the council of one of their members unless a duly authorized student court system is established and properly monitored by a faculty advisor. However, a council may make recommendations to the administration on any topic of student concern.

The administration and school council shall keep channels of communication open, not only between themselves, but among all students, the council, and the Board of Education.

Non-School Organizations

All organizations not specifically authorized and organized by the school are considered to be non-school organizations and beyond the jurisdiction and responsibility of school authorities.

However, should these groups conduct activities on school property, at school-sponsored activities or as a carry-over into the school day or reflect on the reputation of the school, the Superintendent is authorized to develop procedures concerning disciplinary action to be taken.

Activities which are contrary to the best interests of the school and reflect on the reputation of the school are forbidden including:

- a. initiation and hazing on the school ground or at school-sponsored events.
- b. indulging in group functions that violate federal, state or municipal laws or county ordinances.

Policy Adopted: March 28, 1990

Policy Revised: March 5, 2003