

EQUAL ACCESS FOR NONDISTRICT-SPONSORED,
STUDENT CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The Board will not permit the use of school facilities by nondistrict-sponsored student clubs and activities during school hours. Outside school hours; however, no group of students, regardless of the size of the group, will be denied an opportunity to meet on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the activity.

An application for permission for Nondistrict-Sponsored student clubs and activities to meet on school premises shall be made to the building principal, who shall grant permission provided that s/he determines that:

- A. the activity has been initiated by students;
- B. attendance at the meeting is voluntary;
- C. no agent or employee of the District will promote, lead, or participate in the meeting;
- D. the meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of instructional activities in the school;
- E. these groups are expected to follow administrative guidelines as defined in Board Policy 9250 - Community Use of District Physical Resources.

A student-initiated group granted permission to meet on school premises shall be provided the same rights and access and shall be subject to the same administrative guidelines that govern the meetings of student organizations sponsored by this Board, except as provided by this policy. Participation in a student-initiated meeting must be available to all students who wish to attend and cannot be denied on the basis of a student's sex, sexual orientation, religion, race, color, national origin or ancestry, age, disability, height, weight, marital status, social or economic status, generally in violation of any State or Federal law prohibiting discrimination and/or any other legally protected characteristic. In addition, there shall be no discrimination on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at the meeting.

Membership in the organization or operation of any high school fraternity, sorority, or any other secret society as described by law is prohibited throughout the School District. In particular, the Board shall not tolerate any type of gang or gang-related activity to occur on District property or while students are under the auspices of the Board. A student-initiated meeting may be attended by no more than one (1) outside resource person(s). The Superintendent may exclude nonstudents from directing, controlling, or attending any such meetings of students.

A professional staff member may be assigned to attend a student initiated meeting in a custodial capacity but shall not participate in the activity. No professional staff member shall be compelled to attend a student-initiated meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to his/her beliefs.

The principal may take such actions as may be necessary to maintain order and discipline on school premises and to protect the safety and well-being of students and staff members.

M.C.L.A. 380.1299

Equal Access Act of 1984, 20 U.S.C. 4071 et seq.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.

Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000e

Adopted January 21, 2008