

Student Organizations

In accordance with the Equal Access Act, the policy of the district is to allow a limited open forum in the high school in which one or more non-curriculum groups may meet on school premises during non-instructional time.

All students will have equal access and opportunity to conduct or attend a meeting within the limited open forum without limitation upon the religious, political, philosophical or other content of such meeting.

The following guidelines will be observed by student groups conducting a meeting(s) of a religious, political and/or philosophical nature within the district's limited open forum for students:

1. The meeting is voluntary and student-initiated;
2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the district, or its agents or employees;
3. Employees or agents of the school are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
4. The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school;
5. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control or regularly attend activities of student groups.

The district shall not:

1. Influence the form or content of any prayer or other religious activity;
2. Require any person to participate in prayer or religious activity;
3. Expend public funds beyond the incidental cost of providing the space for student-initiated meetings;
4. Compel any school agent or employee to attend a school meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to the beliefs of the agent or employee;
5. Sanction meetings that are otherwise unlawful;
6. Limit the rights of groups of students which are not of a specific numerical size;

7. Abridge the constitutional rights of any person.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 339.880](#)

[ORS 339.885](#)

[OAR 581-021-0050](#)

[OAR 581-021-0055](#)

Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 4071-4074 (2006).

Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Unified Sch. Dist., 508 U.S. 384 (1993).

Westside Cmty. Bd. of Educ. v. Mergens, 496 U.S. 226 (1990).

Cross Reference(s):

IB - Freedom of Expression

JFI - Student Demonstrations and Petitions