

Student Organizations

Philosophy

Organized student groups joined together by common interests and purposes related to educational functions of the school are an integral part of the school system. The district encourages curriculum-related student organizations. District staff will facilitate such organizations and district resources may be used to support them. The district may also support student organizations which are not directly curriculum related. When such groups are properly organized and guided by school personnel, they make important contributions to the life of the school and the student. All official student organizations must meet the requirements listed below:

Chartering

All organizations that carry out activities within the schools must obtain approval of the building principal and be chartered according to school regulations.

Secret Societies

No secret societies of any kind, including fraternities or sororities shall be permitted in any district school (ORS 339.885). As required by law, the district will regulate such organizations and suspend or expel students who participate in the organization.

Hazing & Initiations

No person in attendance in the district shall conspire to initiate, haze, attempt to haze or engage in hazing, which is the commission of any act that injures, degrades or disgraces, or tends to injure, degrade or disgrace any person attending the school. No person in charge of students or teaching in the district shall permit an act of initiation or hazing or of attempting to haze any person attending the school.

Initiations

Initiations shall be limited to those activities that promote better citizenship and leadership for the schools.

Non-Curricular Clubs

Voluntary student-organized clubs which are not curriculum-related may meet on school premises during noninstructional time. If the content of such a club's meetings is religious in nature, school staff may attend only in a nonparticipatory manner. Staff may be assigned to attend such meetings for custodial purposes only, but will not be compelled to attend a meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to that person's beliefs.

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).