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|  | ABERDEEN SCHOOL DISTRICT | NEPN Code: JJAB |
| | POLICIES AND REGULATIONS | |

EQUAL ACCESS – LIMITED OPEN FORUM

The Aberdeen School Board hereby establishes a “limited open forum” within the meaning of the Federal Equal Access Act, (20USCA 4071-4074) and the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act for non-curriculum related student meetings for students attending Central High School.

A “sponsored club” shall mean a club which is curriculum related and directly under the sponsorship, direction, and control of the school.

A “non-sponsored club” shall mean any other student-initiated club which is not under the sponsorship, direction, or control of the school, except as provided in this policy.

Sponsored clubs shall be directed by a member of the faculty or administration of the school and be curriculum related. The school shall not sponsor clubs which advocate particular religious or political beliefs or beliefs which tend to create adversarial situations among students in the school or beliefs which are subversive.

Non-sponsored clubs shall have an approved monitor. The assignment of a monitor to a meeting for custodial purposes does not constitute sponsorship of the meeting. The school and the Aberdeen School District shall not be identified or associated with the goals, objectives, activities, beliefs, or opinions of any non-sponsored club or its members.

Non-sponsored meetings pursuant to this Policy:

1. shall be voluntary and student initiated;
2. shall not be sponsored by the District or its agents or employees;
3. will have employees or agents of the District present at such meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
4. shall not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school building; and
5. will not be directed or controlled by non school persons.

Nothing in this Policy shall be construed to authorize the District:

1. to influence the form or content of any prayer or other religious activity;
2. to require any person to participate in prayer or other religious activities;
3. to expend public funds beyond the incidental cost of providing the space for student-initiated meetings;
4. to compel any school agent or employee to attend a non-sponsored meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to the beliefs of the agent or employee;

5. to sanction meetings that are otherwise unlawful;
6. to limit the rights of groups of students which are not of a specifying numerical size; or
7. to abridge the constitutional rights of any person.

Nothing in this Policy shall be construed to limit the authority of the District, its agents or employees, to maintain order and discipline on school premises, to protect the well being of students and faculty, and to assure that attendance of students at meetings is voluntary.

Meetings shall not be held in student common public areas such as halls or lunchrooms. Rooms to be used and times for meetings pursuant to this Policy shall be designated by the Building Principal on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Students attending meetings in District facilities pursuant to this Policy are responsible for any damage to District property occurring during such meeting.

Except as provided in this Policy and Policy KF (Community Use of Schools), non-curriculum related student groups may not use District facilities.

REFERENCE: NEPN Policy KF Community Use of Buildings, Grounds, and Properties
FORMERLY: Policy 1331
ADOPTED: February 10, 1994
REVISED: July 24, 2006
REVISED: February 27, 2012
REVIEWED: November 28, 2016