

Houston County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in May	Descriptor Term: Student Clubs and Organizations	Descriptor Code: 6.702	Issued Date: 07/08/13
		Rescinds: JHC	Issued: 01/09/95

Student organizations are an extension of the academic curriculum and are intended to complement the basic instructional program.

The principal, in cooperation with the faculty and student body representatives, shall approve all clubs and organizations within the school.

One or more staff members will serve as sponsors of each activity and will attend all meetings. Each sponsor will evaluate the activity and make recommendations concerning changes, continuance, or deletion from the school's activity program.

An approved copy of the aims, objectives, and constitution for each organization will be kept on file in the principal's office. A description of all clubs and organizations will be prominently displayed in the student handbook with a notice that parents may opt their children out of certain clubs or organizations through written, signed and dated notices, as required by TCA 49-6-1031.

The director of schools shall approve all requirements imposed by clubs which have restricted membership.

Sororities, fraternities, and all secret organizations are prohibited.

HAZING

Hazing by a student or group of students is prohibited on or off LEA property. ("Hazing" means any intentional reckless act by one (1) student acting alone or with others which is directed against any other student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of that student, or which induces or coerces a student to endanger such student's mental or physical health or safety. "Hazing" does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions, and is limited to those actions taken and situations created in initiation into or affiliation with any organization.)

The nature of any initiation shall be outlined and presented in writing to the club sponsor and the principal of the school for approval prior to the actual initiation. Any organization which permits an initiation to go beyond the scope of activities planned and previously approved will be suspended until reinstated by the principal. A student found guilty of misbehavior may receive punishment ranging from verbal reprimand to suspension and/or expulsion dependent on the severity of the offense and the offender's prior record.¹

Legal Reference:

1. TCA 49-2-120; TCA 49-6-3401