

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

No. 707(b)

Board of Trustees Douglas County School District

PROPERTY

IMPLEMENTING THE EQUAL ACCESS ACT

This administrative regulation is intended to implement the federal Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. 4071, et seq., and the First Amendment right of freedom of speech.

The State of Nevada and the Douglas County School District believe that it is important for students to learn American ideals, including the meaning and practice of freedom of speech, while in school in order that, as future citizens of majority, they will appreciate the proper exercise of this vital liberty. In adopting this regulation, the Douglas County School District does not forego its authority to maintain an orderly and disciplined school environment.

The schools in this district shall have a limited public forum for student groups wishing to meet to engage in speech, subject to the following restrictions:

1. Students shall be permitted to meet during non-instructional time of the individual students involved in the meeting, including before school, after school, during lunch or other non-instructional times. However, no student shall be present at a meeting at a time when he or she has a class or is required by school rules to be elsewhere, unless permission from the classroom teacher is obtained. This includes any time during which the school requires the particular student or all students to be off school property or outside the school building.
2. All meetings shall be student initiated and open to all students in the school. All student attendance at a meeting shall be voluntary.
3. No meeting may include any activity that is unlawful or that materially and substantially interferes with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school.
4. It is understood that the content of these student meetings is not sponsored by the Douglas County School District. The school district is neutral as to the content of these meetings if the meetings comply with paragraphs 2 and 3.
5. Students may invite outside speakers to their meetings subject to paragraphs 2, 3, and 4.

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6. A teacher or other responsible adult will be present at all student meetings. Students will be responsible for finding a teacher or other responsible adult to attend these meetings. No teacher will be compelled to be present at any student meeting.
7. If students wish to meet under this regulation, they must file a request to meet with the principal. The request must list:
 - a. The room in which they wish to meet and the time during which they will meet;
 - b. The name of one student who will serve as the contact between the group and school authorities; and
 - c. The name of the teacher or other responsible adult who will be present.

The principal shall approve a meeting, if it meets the requirements of this regulation. He shall notify the student contact person of such approval or, if it does not meet the requirements of this regulation, his reasons for disapproval (within two days of submission of the request to meet). Once approved, a student group may continue meeting in the same location and at the same time on a regular basis for the remainder of the school year, unless it subsequently violates this regulation or the principal determines that a different time and/or location are necessary. If the group desires to change the location or time of its regular meetings, approval must be obtained in advance from the principal in accordance with the terms of this regulation.

See Policy related to this Administrative Regulation
See also: Administrative Regulations 707(a), 707(c)

Adopted 09/92