

1 Great Falls School District

2

3 **STUDENTS**

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5 Student Use of Buildings: Equal Access

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7 Non-curricular groups of students not previously recognized as a curricular student organization  
8 under Policy 3510 or 3550 may gather on school premises under the following guidelines  
9 without restriction on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the  
10 meeting. Students wishing to form curricular groups or organizations recognized by the school  
11 administration may do so in accordance with Policy 3510 or 3550.

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13 This policy shall be made available to all interested individuals upon request and posted on the  
14 District’s website. Information about the nature and purpose of student clubs and groups meeting  
15 at the school and methods to consent to participation or opt out of participation will be provided  
16 to parents and families in print or electronic format, consistent with parent/family rights.

17 The following guidelines must be met:

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- 19 1. The meeting is voluntary and student-initiated.
- 20 2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school district, or its agents or employees.
- 21 3. The meeting must occur during non-instructional time on regular school days.
- 22 4. Employees or agents of the school district are present only in a capacity outside of their  
23 official duties.
- 24 5. The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of  
25 educational activities within the school.
- 26 6. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities.

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28 Although the school assumes no sponsorship of these kinds of meetings, all meetings held on  
29 school premises must be scheduled and approved by the principal.

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31 This policy pertains to student meetings. The school has the authority, through its agent or  
32 employees, to maintain order and discipline on school premises and to protect the well-being of  
33 students and faculty.

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35 Cross References:

36 Policy 2132	Family Educational and Privacy Rights
37 Policy 2158	Family Engagement and Involvement in Education
38 Policy 2332	Student Religious Activity in School
39 Policy 3222	Distribution and Posting Materials
40 Policy 3510	School Sponsored Activities
41 Policy 3550	Student Clubs
42 Policy 4331	Use of School Property for Posting Notices

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44 Legal References:

45 § 40-6-701, MCA	Fundamental Parental Rights
46 20 U.S.C. 4071	Denial of Equal Access Prohibited

1 Board of Education v. Mergens, 110 S.Ct. 2356 (1990)  
2 Title 20, Chapter 3, Part 3 Board of Trustees  
3 Chapter 693 (2023) Parental Rights

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5 Policy History:

6 Adopted on: July 1, 2000  
7 Revised on; June 22, 2015  
8 Revised on: August 23, 2021  
9 Revised on: August 21, 2023