

FID-1: Student Organization (Secondary Schools)

Policy Statement

It is the policy of the District to encourage the organization and operation of curriculum-related, school-sponsored student organizations in the secondary schools and to permit such organizations to meet on school premises during activities periods and non-instructional time. The District does not intend, however, to create or permit an open forum for student-initiated organizations in the secondary schools. The purpose of this policy is to establish criteria and procedures governing the recognition of curriculum-related student organizations.

Recognition of Student Organizations

Curriculum-related student organizations serve as an extension of the regular school curriculum. Their function is to enhance the participants' educational experience and supplement the course materials within the educational program of the schools. The activities of these organizations should bear a clear relationship to the regular curriculum.

Student organizations meeting the criteria of this policy and approved by the principal will be deemed to be officially recognized, school-sponsored student organizations. Any organization which fails to meet the criteria of this policy will be denied recognition as and the privileges of a student organization. Recognition of any student organization shall be in accordance with District procedures.

Membership

Membership in student organizations shall be voluntary and shall be open to and limited to all students currently enrolled in the school. Student organizations may establish academic qualifications for membership where necessarily related to the purposes of the organization. No student shall be denied membership on account of his or her race, color, national origin or religion. Qualifications based on sex may be imposed only where necessary to preserve the health, safety or welfare of students, or where sex is a bona fide and integral qualification for the activities of the organization.

Faculty Sponsorship

Every student organization shall be sponsored by one or more of the members of the school faculty, approved by the principal. Faculty sponsors shall be responsible for the supervision and direction of all activities of the organization, shall actively participate in planning and implementing the activities and shall attend all meetings.

Compliance with Law and Policy

Student organizations shall not engage in any activity which is contrary to law, District policy or school rules; which disrupts or clearly threatens to disrupt the orderly operation of the school; or which would adversely affect the health, safety or welfare of any students or staff members. Student organizations shall comply with the purchasing policy of the District and may not extend

the credit of the District. Failure to comply with these provisions shall be grounds for revocation of recognition.

Other School Groups

Consistent with the District's purpose not to establish an open forum in the secondary schools, student groups other than student organizations officially recognized under this policy shall not be permitted to meet on school premises. This policy shall not be construed to limit the rights of students to form groups which meet outside of school for any purpose.

**Divide County
School District**

**POLICY ADOPTED: 02/28/1989
POLICY REAFFIRMED:
POLICY AMENDED: 09/12/2006**