

**STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND EQUAL ACCESS****School Sponsorship**

School-sponsored student organizations must be organized at the school, have a certificated advisor, be composed completely of current student body members and be approved by the Superintendent or designee in accordance with Board of Trustees policy. They shall hold the majority of their meetings at school and have a democratic plan for the selection of officers. Organization activities shall not conflict with the authority and responsibilities of school officials.

The principal or designee shall direct any group of students seeking recognition as a student organization to submit a district-approved application form which includes the following information:

1. Name of the organization and names of student contacts
2. A statement of the organization's purposes, objectives and activities
3. Name of staff sponsor, and a description of the function of staff adviser in the promotion, supervision and leadership of the group. The principal shall have final authority in determining the assignment and role of the staff adviser.
4. The proposed dates, times, and location of meetings
5. Any special equipment to be used
6. A description of the qualifications for membership, if any
7. If a curriculum-related group, a statement of the relation of the club to the curriculum and/or instructional program

The principal or designee shall establish school rules governing the meetings of curriculum-related groups. Such rules may vary depending on the circumstances that apply, such as whether or not academic credit is given for participation in the group.

In order to maintain a closed forum at district schools, each principal or designee shall ensure that all school-sponsored student organizations are curriculum-related. In order to qualify as "curriculum-related," a student group shall meet one or more of the following criteria:

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1. The subject matter of the group is currently taught or will soon be taught in a regularly scheduled course.
2. The subject matter of the group concerns the body of courses as a whole (e.g., student government).
3. Participation in the group is required for a particular course.
4. Participation in the group results in academic credit.

Groups not sponsored by the school may use school facilities only as allowed under the Civic Center Act.

(cf. 1330 - Use of School Facilities)

The Superintendent may deny the use of facilities to any groups that he/she believes will disrupt the school program or threaten the health and safety of students and staff. (20 USC 4071)

The Governing Board desires to provide a safe school environment that allows all students equal access and opportunities in the district's academic, extracurricular, and other educational support programs, services, and activities. The Board prohibits, at any district school or school activity, unlawful discrimination, including discriminatory harassment, intimidation, and bullying, targeted at any student by anyone, based on the student's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, nationality, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, age, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

**Hazing**

Any student who engages in hazing may be subject to discipline including, but not limited to, suspension or expulsion. Hazing means a method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by the district, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective student. (Education Code 48900)

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

Regulation Approved: 01/10/18

ORCUTT UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Orcutt, California