

**POWAY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE**

Originator: Asst. Supt., Instruction

Issue No: 2

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ARTICLE: 5.0 STUDENT PERSONNEL

**5.23 STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS,
SECONDARY SCHOOLS (MIDDLE
AND HIGH SCHOOLS)**

SECTION 5.23.1 Student Organizations, Secondary Schools (Middle and High Schools)

Club/Organization Definition

A club/organization is defined as a group of students with a desire to meet based on similar interests. Each club/organization must have at least four members. Clear distinction is made between school sponsored, curriculum related clubs/service clubs/organizations and non-school sponsored limited open forum clubs/organizations as defined in Section 5.23.1.

Recognition of a Club/Organization

All student groups wishing to meet on a school campus must be officially recognized by filing a club/organization charter with the Associated Student Body. Recognized school sponsored, curriculum related service clubs/organizations and non-school sponsored limited open forum clubs/organizations are afforded the same opportunities on campus and must abide by the established guidelines and procedures including fundraising and fund disbursement. Failure to comply with established school regulations and procedures shall be grounds for revocation of recognition and cessation of activities.

1. Definitions

As used in this regulation, the terms listed below shall have the meanings indicated:

A. Limited Open Forum

The term "limited open forum" applies whenever the District/school provides for use of buildings and/or grounds by non-school groups during non-instructional time.

B. Meetings

The term "meeting" includes those activities of student groups which are permitted under the District/school limited open forum and are not directly related to the school curriculum.

C. Sponsorship

The term "sponsorship" includes the act of promotion, leading, or participating in a meeting. The assignment of a teacher, administrator, or other school employee to a meeting for custodial purposes does not constitute sponsorship of the meeting.

D. Non-Instructional Time

The term "non-instructional time" means time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends which shall include time during lunch/nutrition breaks.

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2. School Sponsored Clubs/Organizations

School sponsored, curriculum related, and service clubs/organizations are valued as important in the educational program. Properly organized and operated they:

- A. Extend and reinforce the instructional program.
- B. Give students practice in democratic self-government.
- C. Build student morale and positive support for the school.
- D. Honor outstanding student achievement.
- E. Provide wholesome social and recreational activities.
- F. Provide opportunities for community service.

School sponsored organizations must be organized at school, sponsored by school personnel, composed completely of current student body members, hold the majority of their meetings at school, and have a democratic plan for the selection of members. Organizational activities shall not conflict with the authority and responsibilities of school officials.

3. Non-School Sponsored Clubs/Organizations

So long as a "limited open forum" is in existence at the Poway Unified School District the opportunity for one or more non-school sponsored student groups to meet on school premises during non-instructional time shall be maintained.

Secondary schools shall allow students to hold meetings or activities not directly related to the school curriculum. All such meetings shall be scheduled during non-instructional time so that it in no way interferes with regular school activities. The principal shall be responsible for scheduling such meetings.

The schools shall not deny access to any student-initiated group on the basis of religious, political, philosophical, or any other content to be addressed at such meetings.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that meetings held under the Equal Access Act are voluntary and student initiated with no direction, control, or regular attendance by non-school persons. The Superintendent shall assure that all meetings are conducted in a safe and orderly manner for the protection of students and staff.

School staff shall not promote or participate in these meetings, but may be assigned to observe and/or participate for custodial purposes.

A non-school sponsored club's announcements, fliers, bulletins, etc. must clearly indicate that they are non-school sponsored.

Hazing

No student shall conspire to engage in hazing, participate in hazing, or commit any act that causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to any fellow student or other person. Persons violating this policy shall be subject to District discipline, misdemeanor penalties, and forfeiture of entitlements.

Prohibited Activities

Any use by an individual, society, group, or organization for the commission of any act intended to further action to overthrow the government is prohibited.