

Students

Student Use of Buildings – Equal Access

[For high school and unit districts]

Student groups or clubs that are not school sponsored are granted free use of school premises for a meeting or series of meetings under the following conditions:

1. The meeting is held during those non-instructional times identified by the Superintendent or designee for non-curricular student groups, clubs, or organizations to meet. *Non-instructional time* means time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends. *Non-curricular student groups* are those student groups, clubs, or organizations that do not directly relate to the curriculum.
2. All non-curriculum related student groups that are not District sponsored receive substantially the same treatment.
3. The meeting is student-initiated, meaning that the request is made by a student.
4. Attendance at the meeting is voluntary.
5. The school will not sponsor the meeting.
6. School employees are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity.
7. The meeting and/or any activities during the meeting do not materially or substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities.
8. Non-school persons do not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend the meetings.
9. The school retains its authority to maintain order and discipline.
10. A school staff member or other responsible adult is present in a supervisory capacity.
11. The Superintendent or designee approves the meeting or series of meetings.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative procedures to implement this policy.

LEGAL REF:	20 U.S.C. §4071 <u>et seq.</u> , Equal Access Act, <u>Bd. of Ed. of Westside Community Sch. Dist. v. Mergens</u> , 496 U.S. 226 (1990). <u>Gernetzke v. Kenosha Unified Sch. Dist. No. 1</u> , 274 F.3d 464 (7 th Cir. 2001), <i>cert. denied</i> , 535 U.S. 1017.
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