7:330

Students

Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access

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 noncurricular 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 may 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 a 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 (7th Cir. 2001), *cert. denied*, 535 U.S. 1017.

CROSS REF.: 7:10 (Equal Education Opportunities), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

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