

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULATION

R-5132

STUDENT GROUPS/CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS

Each school, Grades 6-12, will give recognition to curriculum-related student groups that are sponsored by the school, and noncurriculum-related student groups that are not sponsored by the school.

I. Curriculum-Related Student Groups/Clubs/Organizations (District-Sponsored)

A. The curriculum at each school is determined by the District. Curriculum-related student groups are limited to those having a direct association with the school's curriculum. A student group directly relates to a school's curriculum:

1. If the subject matter of the group is actually taught, or will soon be taught, in a regularly offered course;
2. If the subject matter of the group concerns the body of courses as a whole;
3. If participation in the group is required for a particular course; or
4. If participation in the group results in academic credit.

The District will make the final decision whether a student group has a direct association with the school's curriculum.

B. Curriculum-related student groups are sponsored by the school.

C. Membership is limited to students currently enrolled in that particular school, or if approved under Policy 5119.

D. Curriculum-related student groups must submit an application on the approved District form along with the group's proposed constitution. Approval shall be issued through the school principal or designee.

E. Each curriculum-related student group shall have a participatory advisor that is a District employee appointed by the principal who shall attend the meetings.

F. Speakers who are neither a member of the student body nor a District employee must have prior approval from the principal or designee.

G. Failure to function within the limits of District regulations and procedures may be cause for revocation of the recognition and disbandment of the curriculum-related student groups/clubs/organizations.

II. Noncurriculum-Related Student Groups/Clubs/Organizations (Not District-Sponsored)

- A. Noncurriculum-related student groups are not sponsored by the school. The fact that such student groups are permitted to conduct meetings on school premises and to access school facilities under this regulation does not constitute an expression of District or school support for the purpose of the student group or the views expressed at any of their meetings.
- B. Noncurriculum-related student groups are those groups that are not directly related to the curriculum and which are initiated and operated by students enrolled in the school.
- C. The Clark County School District recognizes that secondary school students, Grades 6-12, have equal access to conduct noncurriculum-related student-led meetings during noninstructional time within a limited open forum, and will not be discriminated against on the basis of religious, political, philosophical or other speech content. All noncurriculum-related student groups will have equal opportunities as provided by law.
- D. Meetings of noncurriculum-related student groups/clubs/organizations:
 - 1. Must be voluntary and student-initiated;
 - 2. Must be during noninstructional time;
 - 3. Are not sponsored by the school, the District, or their agents or employees;
 - 4. May not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school;
 - 5. Must not be directed, conducted, controlled, or regularly attended by nonschool persons; and
 - 6. Will have employees of the school or District present only in a nonparticipating capacity for custodial and safety purposes. The employee may not promote, lead, or participate in the meeting. The presence of a teacher, administrator, or other employee at a meeting for custodial purposes does not constitute sponsorship of the meeting.
- E. This regulation does not authorize any District school, its agents or employees to:
 - 1. Influence the form or content of any prayer or other religious activity;

2. Require students or District employees to participate in prayer or other religious activity, or to attend a student-initiated meeting if the content of the meeting is contrary to their beliefs;
 3. Use public funds beyond the incidental cost of providing space for the student-initiated meetings;
 4. Sanction meetings that are otherwise unlawful;
 5. Limit the rights of groups of students which are not of a specific numerical size; or
 6. Abridge the constitutional rights of any person.
- F. Noncurriculum-related student groups must submit an application on the approved District form along with the group's proposed constitution. Approval shall be issued through the school principal or designee.
- G. Membership is limited to students currently enrolled in that particular school, or if approved under Policy 5119.
- H. Speakers who are neither a member of the student body nor a District employee must have prior approval from the principal or designee.
- I. This regulation does not alter the authority of the school, its administration or staff to maintain order and discipline on school premises, to protect the well-being of students and staff, and to assure that the attendance of students at any meetings held under this regulation is voluntary.
- J. Noncurriculum-related student groups and individual members of those student groups may distribute materials in conformance with District Regulation 1110.
- K. Even though they are not District-sponsored, noncurriculum-related student groups/clubs/organizations may fund raise subject to the limitations set forth in District regulations.
- L. Failure to function within the limits of the District regulations and procedures may be cause for revocation of the recognition and disbandment of the noncurriculum-related student groups/clubs/organizations.

III. Limitations on Speech/Activities

- A. In accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes 388.077, the speech or activities of curriculum-related and noncurriculum-related student groups/clubs/organizations shall not:
1. Cause substantial disruption, or a reasonable forecast of substantial disruption, to the educational environment or educational mission of the school;
 2. Adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of any student or staff member;
 3. Be used to bully, cyberbully, or intimidate any person;
 4. Be contrary to law, Board policies and regulations, or school rules; or
 5. Be organized, broadcast, or endorsed by the school.

IV. Separate from curriculum-related and noncurriculum-related student groups, the District sponsors activity and athletics programs (including support groups such as spirit squads) which are governed by separate regulations including CCSD Regulations 5135 and 5135.1.

V. Student Publications

- A. A student publication is any form of material that is prepared by and issued by students through curricular or noncurricular student groups, clubs, or organizations. Materials may be a hard copy, electronic, or in social media that are made available to the general population.
- B. Student freedom of speech and/or freedom of expression shall extend to students working as journalists on such student publications in their determination of the news, opinions, feature content, advertising content, and other content of the student publications.
- C. In accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes 388.077, the speech or expression of students working as journalists on student publications shall be subject to the limitations set forth in Section III of this regulation.
- D. All student publications must include a disclaimer indicating that any content published in the student publication is not endorsed by the school or by the District.

E. Student Journalist Discipline

1. Suspension, expulsion, or otherwise disciplining students engaged in expressive conduct related to a student publication in accordance with this regulation is prohibited, unless such conduct intentionally and substantially disrupts the educational environment as described above.
2. Resolution of a complaint by a student shall be in accordance with Policy 5114, Discipline: Student Exemption and Exclusion (Voluntary and Involuntary); Regulation 5114.1, Discipline: Suspension Procedures; and Regulation 5114.2, Discipline: Expulsion Procedures.

F. Advisor Discipline

Dismissing, suspending, disciplining, or retaliating against employees or other persons acting as an advisor for a student publication, who take appropriate action to protect a student engaged in expressive conduct protected in accordance with this regulation, is prohibited.

Legal References:	Equal Access Act, 20 USC §§4071-4074 NRS Chapter 388, System of Public Instruction
Review Responsibility:	Instructional Services Unit
Adopted:	[5131.1:7/12/63]
Revised:	(8/13/81; 9/13/94; 10/22/15; 4/26/18)
Pol Gov Rev:	6/28/01