

**STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS, CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS
AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**
(Secondary Schools)

I. Generally

In accordance with Policy JB: *Nondiscrimination in Education*, students have the right to equitable access to programs, activities, and events including, but not limited to, acknowledgements, dances, assemblies, after-school programs, extracurricular activities, intramurals, non-competitive sports leagues, and field trips. For any school program, event, or activity, including extra-curricular activities that are segregated by gender, ACPS allows students to participate in a manner consistent with their gender identity.

Interscholastic athletic participation regulated by the Virginia High School League (VHSL) or another organization, such as the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association (VASRA), is operated in compliance with the policies and rules outlined by that organization.

II. Student Organizations: Secondary Schools

It is the policy of the school division to permit ACPS supports the organization and operation of student organizations in the ~~its~~ secondary schools and ~~to~~ permits such organizations to meet on school premises during non-instructional time. The purpose of this policy is to establish criteria and procedures governing the operation of student organizations.

A. Curriculum-~~related~~ Related student Student organizations Organizations

While public school facilities are devoted primarily to instructional programs and school-sponsored activities, curriculum-related student organizations:

~~must:~~

- Serve as ~~Are~~ an extension of the regular school ~~program~~ curriculum;
- Enhance the participants' educational experience;
- Supplement the course materials within the educational program of the schools; and
- Promote activities that ~~b~~Bear a clear relationship to the regular curriculum.

The principal ~~shall~~ determines whether the organization meets the above criteria. The principal ~~shall~~ approves organizations that meet the above criteria and officially recognizes them as school-sponsored student organizations.

A.B. Noncurriculum-Related Student Groups Student-Initiated Organizations

Secondary school students ~~are~~ may also ~~permitted to~~ organize and conduct meetings of noncurriculum-related student ~~organizations~~ groups to pursue activities outside of the school curriculum, subject to the provisions of this policy. Such ~~organizations~~ groups may use school facilities provided that:

The group's meetings are voluntary and ~~must be~~ student initiated;

~~and directed, and school personnel, parents, and any other persons who are not students enrolled in the division may not direct, control, conduct, or regularly attend the meetings of such organizations~~

- ~~• the group is not sponsored by the school, the government, or any government agent or employee;~~
- ~~• agents or employees of the school or government are present at religious meetings only in a nonparticipatory capacity;~~
- ~~• meetings do not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities at the school; and~~
- ~~• nonschool persons do not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of the group,~~ except that the faculty supervisor, appointed by the principal, attends all meetings.

Non-curriculum-related student organizations are not designated as school-sponsored or endorsed. The fact that such organizations may hold meetings under this policy does not constitute an expression of school division support for the purposes of such organizations or the content of any meetings thereof.

B.C. Meetings of Student Organizations

All student organizations ~~shall have the right to may~~ meet on school premises during non-instructional time as designated by the school principal. ACPS ~~shall does~~ not deny any student organization equal access to school facilities during designated meeting times on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at the meetings of such organization. ACPS ~~shall does~~ not extend any public funding or support to any non-curriculum-related student ~~organization group~~ other than the opportunity to meet on school premises on an equal basis as other student organizations.

The principal of each school ~~shall develops~~ ~~guidelines and rules concerning the~~ procedures for scheduling meetings of student organizations and ~~setting determining~~ the times and ~~facilities places~~ which are available for such meetings. Meeting times ~~shall be are~~ limited to non-instructional time before or after regular classroom hours or during established activities periods. These guidelines ~~and rules shall be are~~ made available to all students. Student organizations wishing to conduct meetings under this policy ~~must make~~ ~~may submit~~ applications to the principal ~~or designee~~ for permission in accordance with ~~D~~ivision procedures.

C.D. Faculty Supervision

The principal ~~shall appoints~~ one or more members of the school faculty to sponsor and supervise each curriculum-related student organization. Faculty sponsors ~~shall participate~~ in the supervision and direction of all activities of the organization and ~~shall attend~~ all meetings ~~and activities~~.

Non-curriculum-related student organizations ~~that are student initiated shall do~~ not have a faculty sponsor. However, a member of the school's ~~professional staff shall attend staff at-~~

tends every meeting or activity of such organizations in a non-participatory capacity for purposes of general supervision. The organization ~~shall be~~ responsible for assuring the presence of a staff member for its meetings.

ACPS ~~shall does~~ not compel any school employee to attend a meeting of any student organization if the content of such meeting is contrary to the beliefs of that school employee. School employees present at any meeting of a non-curriculum-related student organization which includes religious worship, prayer, or practice or is identified as having a religious purpose ~~shall attends~~ in a non-participatory capacity only.

III. Membership and Participation in Student Organizations and Activities

Membership in all student organizations shall be open to and limited to all students currently enrolled in the sponsoring school on a voluntary basis. Student organizations may establish academic qualifications for membership where necessarily related to the purposes of the organization. Student organizations ~~shall and activities may~~ not deny a student's membership on account of ~~his or her race, color, national origin, or religion. their race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnicity, disability, religion, political affiliation, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, marital or parental status, genetic information, or military status, except for participation in interscholastic athletic activities specifically regulated by outside organizations (noted in section I. of this policy). An organization may only impose membership qualifications based on sex where based on competitive athletic skill or where the activity involved is a contact sport. However, membership shall not be denied solely on the basis of gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation.~~

IV. Compliance with Law and Policy

Student organizations ~~shall may~~ not engage in any activity which is contrary to law, ~~division Division~~ policy; or school rules; which disrupts or clearly threatens to disrupt the orderly operation of the school; or which would adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of any students or staff members. Failure to comply with these provisions shall be grounds for disciplinary action.

Adopted: January 9, 1997
 Amended: July 1, 2005
 Amended: January 22, 2015
Amended:

Legal Refs.: 20 USC § section 4071. et seq.

Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972;
34 C.F.R. Parts 101 and 106. -
Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex

Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-23.3.

<u>Cross Refs.:</u>	<u>IGDAA</u>	<u>Grade Average Requirement for Eligibility to Participate in Athletic and Co-Curricular Programs</u>
	<u>IICA</u>	<u>Field Trips</u>
	<u>IICA-R</u>	<u>Field Trip Procedures</u>
	<u>JB</u>	<u>Nondiscrimination in Education</u>
	<u>JB-R/JFHA-R</u>	<u>Procedures for Investigating Student Complaints of Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying</u>
	<u>JFB</u>	<u>Student Involvement in Decision Making</u>
	<u>JFCB</u>	<u>Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity</u>
	<u>KF</u>	<u>Distribution of Information/Materials</u>
	<u>KF-R</u>	<u>Regulations for Distribution of Information/Materials in Schools</u>
	<u>KG</u>	<u>Community Use of School Facilities</u>
	<u>KG-R</u>	<u>Community Use of School Facilities Regulations and Application</u>

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