

Student Organizations

Students in Mapleton Public Schools (the “District”) are encouraged to broaden their knowledge and citizenship by forming clubs or other organizations that relate to subject matter covered by the curriculum. Such organizations shall operate within the framework of State statutes, District policy, administrative rules, and the parameters of the learning program.

Each school director shall develop general guidelines for the establishment and operation of student organizations within the school. Among other provisions, such guidelines shall require the approval of the school director prior to the formation of any club or organization in a school and the assignment of at least one faculty advisor to each approved student organization.

All student organizations are required to open membership to all interested and/or eligible students. Fraternities, sororities, and/or secret societies shall not receive recognition in any manner under this policy.

All forms of hazing shall be prohibited. No initiation shall be held for a student organization which may be degrading to the student.

The faculty advisor must attend every meeting of the student organization whether conducted on school premises or at another location.

The school director is responsible for determining whether the purpose of a student organization is related to the curriculum.

Student organizations shall be considered directly related to the curriculum if one or more of the following applies:

1. The subject matter of the group actually is taught in a regularly-offered course;
2. The subject matter of the group concerns the body of courses as a whole;
3. Participation in the group is required for a particular course; or,
4. Academic credit or extra credit is given for participation in the group.

When the school director denies the request of a student organization desiring to meet or form in a particular school, the school director shall inform the group of the reasons for the denial. The students and/or group may submit a written request to the Superintendent (or designee) within 10 days of the denial for a review of the school director’s decision.

In the event the school director denies a group of middle and/or high school students the right to organize and conduct meetings as a curriculum-related student organization, students may seek permission to meet as a noncurricular student organization in accordance with District policy JJA-2.

Adopted August 27, 2019, by the Board of Education for Mapleton Public Schools.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

20 U.S.C. §§ 4071 *et seq.* (*Equal Access Act*)

C.R.S. § 22-1-117 (*secret fraternities forbidden*)

C.R.S. § 22-1-118 (*board has power to enforce prohibition on secret fraternities*)

CROSS REFERENCES:

JJA-2: Student Organizations - Open Forum