

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
(LIMITED OPEN FORUM)

The Equal Access Act requires that the public secondary schools grant equal access to student groups who wish to meet for religious, political, or philosophical purposes, if the school allows other types of non-curriculum related student groups to meet. This policy establishes the limited open forum to be held during non-instructional time as determined by the school administrator to ensure equal access to student groups wishing to meet.

The administrator may approve student groups use of facilities to conduct a limited open forum meeting provided that the following criteria are met:

- a. The meeting will take place during a period of non-instructional time as determined by the administrator.
- b. The meeting is voluntary and student initiated. The principal must be assured that students are the ones promoting such activities and that they are participating of their own volition. Only students enrolled in the school may request the meetings.
- c. Employees or agents of the school district do not promote, lead or participate in such meetings. Principals may assign personnel to supervise these meetings, but this action does not constitute sponsorship by the district of such meetings.
- d. The presence of school authorities or district employees at any school religious meeting is non-participatory in nature. The presence of school authorities is for the purpose of observation only.
- e. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups. Visitors to the school must be approved by the principal and clearance obtained prior to the meeting.
- f. The meeting does not in any way interfere with the conduct of regular instructional activities of the school. Since the education of the students is a prime responsibility of the school, any other activities are secondary, the school may deny facilities to students on the basis that such activities or meetings interfere with the instructional program.
- g. The meeting is open to all students without regard to race, gender, religion, disability, or national origin.

- h. All groups will have equal access to student activity boards, may submit announcements for the public address system and may submit to the school newspaper.

(ADOPTION DATE: January 10, 1983)

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REFS.: Brandon Valley Student Handbook, Activities.