

**STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND EQUAL ACCESS**

The Governing Board believes that student groups reinforce the instructional program, give students experience in civics and government, and provide social and recreational activities. Student groups shall be authorized by the principal or designee in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation.

*(cf. 1321 - Solicitation of Funds from and by Students)*

*(cf. 3452 - Student Activity Funds)*

*(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)*

*(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)*

**OPTION 1: (Closed Forum )**

In order to maintain a closed forum on school campuses, only student-initiated groups that relate directly to the curriculum shall be allowed to meet on school premises during noninstructional time.

All curriculum-related student clubs or groups shall have equal access to the school media to announce meetings, including, but not limited to, the public address system, the school newspaper, the school bulletin board, and school web site.

Noncurriculum-related student groups are subject to the requirements specified in Board policy and administrative regulation for community groups regarding the use of district facilities for meetings and the right to distribute materials to students.

*(cf. 1325 - Advertising and Promotion)*

*(cf. [1330](#) - Use of School Facilities)*

*(cf. [3515.2](#) - Disruptions)*

**OPTION 2: (Limited Open Forum)**

The Board encourages students to pursue interests and clubs which may not directly relate to the district's curriculum and, to that end, has created a limited open forum.

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All student-initiated groups shall be given equal access to meet on school premises during noninstructional time without regard to their religious, political, philosophical, or other speech content. The Board shall ensure that: (20 USC 4071, 4072)

1. The meeting shall be voluntary and student-initiated.
2. There shall be no sponsorship of the meeting by the school or staff. The term sponsorship means that school staff are promoting, leading, or participating in a meeting. The assignment of a teacher, administrator, or other school employee to a meeting for custodial purposes shall not constitute sponsorship of the meeting.
3. Employees of the school shall be present at religious meetings only in a nonparticipatory capacity.
4. The meeting shall not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school.
5. Nonschool persons shall not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.

(cf. [1330](#) - *Use of School Facilities*)

(cf. [3515.2](#) - *Disruptions*)

(cf. [5145.2](#) - *Freedom of Speech/Expression*)

All student clubs or groups shall have equal access to the school media to announce meetings, including the public address system, the school newspaper, bulletin boards, and school web site. However, the principal or designee may issue a disclaimer that such activities are not school-sponsored.

All noncurriculum-related student groups shall be given equal access to meeting space, school equipment, and supplies.

No school shall deny equal access or a fair opportunity to meet to, or discriminate against, any group officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, or with any other youth group listed as a patriotic society in Title 36 of the United States Code, for reasons based on the membership or leadership criteria or oath of allegiance to God and country. (20 USC 7905)

**Instruction**

**BP 6145.5(c)**

**STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND EQUAL ACCESS**

*Legal Reference:*

*EDUCATION CODE*

*52 Designation of secondary schools*

*53 Designation of high schools*

*200-262.3 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex*

*48900 Hazing*

*48907 Student Exercise of Free Expression*

*48930-48938 Student organizations*

*48950 Freedom of speech*

*49020-49023 Athletic programs: ~~Legislative intent~~*

*CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5*

*2 Definitions*

*5531 Supervision of extracurricular activities of pupils*

*PENAL CODE*

*627-627.10 Access to school premises*

*UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20*

*4071-4074 The Equal Access Act*

*7904 School prayer*

*7905 Boy Scouts equal access*

*UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 36*

*20101-240112 Patriotic organizations*

Policy

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SAUGUS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Clarita, California