File: JJA-1

Curriculum Related Student Organizations

Schools in the district may encourage students to broaden their knowledge and citizenship by permitting the formation of clubs or other groups that relate to subject matter covered by the curriculum. Such organizations shall operate within the framework of state statutes, Board policy, administrative rules and the parameters of the learning program.

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

The principal 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 organization represents the primary or majority of content taught in a regularly offered district-approved course.
- 2. The subject matter of the organization concerns the body of courses as a whole.
- 3. Participation in the organization is required for a particular course.
- 4. Academic credit or extra credit is given for participation in the organization.

Meetings of student organizations may not interfere with the regular educational activities of the school. Meetings may take place before, during or after school as determined by the principal.

Subject to principal approval, student curricular-related organizations may:

- 1. Hang a limited number of posters or signs around the school.
- 2. Use the school's PA system to announce meetings.
- 3. Post club and meeting information on the school's website.

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

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 in a student organization. No initiation shall be held for a student organization which will be degrading and/or harmful to the student, or is unlawful.

In the event the principal denies a group of middle and/or high school students the right to organize and conduct meetings as a curriculum-related student organization, students

File: JJA-1

may seek permission to meet as a non-curricular student organization in accordance with Board policy JJA-2.

Adopted: July 28, 1993 Revised: June 8, 1994 Revised: October 12, 2005

Revised and recoded: June 24, 2015

Revised: September 26, 2018

LEGAL REFS.: 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 (school board has power to enforce prohibition on

secret fraternities)

CROSS REF.: JJA-2, Non-Curricular Student Organizations

St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J, Longmont, Colorado