Student Group Meetings

1. **Co-Curricular Student Groups**

   Co-curricular student groups are school-sponsored associations of secondary school students established for purposes directly related to the school curriculum, including student government activities. Such groups include, but are not limited to, the following: student council, school band or other musical group, language clubs, drama club, student publications, honor society, athletic teams, cheerleading squads and drill teams. Co-curricular student groups may meet at such times and under such conditions as may be approved by the school principal or his/her designee.

2. **Approval of Co-Curricular Status**

   Any group of secondary students not clearly identified as a "co-curricular" group in paragraph 1 above may apply to the school principal for recognition of co-curricular status. The school principal shall, within five (5) school days, either approve the application or disapprove the application subject to an appeal to the Superintendent or his/her designee within five (5) school days of the principal's disapproval. Any decision by the Superintendent or his/her designee regarding co-curricular status shall be final.

3. **Noncurriculum-Related Student Groups**

   A noncurriculum-related student group is any group of secondary students which does not qualify as a co-curricular student group under the criteria identified in paragraph 1 above. No noncurriculum-related student group shall be sponsored by the District, any school or any District employee. Noncurriculum-related student groups shall include, but not be limited to, groups established for political or religious purposes. Noncurriculum-related student groups shall be permitted to use school facilities for meetings at reasonable times before or after the instructional day, subject to the approval of the school principal, if the following criteria are satisfied:

   a. The group must be organized for lawful purposes and may not engage in activities which violate federal or state laws or which substantially interfere with school operations.

   b. Meetings must be open to all students without regard to race, religion, gender or national origin.

   c. Meetings shall be voluntary and must be organized and initiated entirely by students.

   d. Meetings may be advertised only on a bulletin board designated by the principal for that purpose. Any advertisement of such meetings shall clearly state that the meeting is not a school-sponsored event.
e. Student members of the group must direct, conduct and control all meetings of the group.

f. Guests may be permitted to attend meetings provided that they register and sign a statement promising not to direct, conduct, control or regularly attend meetings of the group. The guest register or a copy thereof shall be given to the school principal within a reasonable time following the conclusion of each meeting.

g. The principal may assign a staff member to attend any meeting for monitoring purposes, provided that:

   (1). no staff member may be compelled to attend any meeting if the content of the speech at such meeting is contrary to his or her beliefs;

   (2). if the meeting is for a religious purpose, the staff member shall not participate in the meeting; and

   (3). any costs attributable to the monitoring of a meeting by an assigned staff member shall be borne by the group.

h. Applications by a noncurriculum-related student group for approval to meet on school premises before or after the instructional day shall be submitted to the school principal at least five (5) school days before the desired meeting date or the first in a planned series of meeting dates. The application shall describe the purpose of the meeting, the names of the students organizers, the estimated size of the group, and shall state that the student organizers have read and agree to abide by the provisions of Policy 5110.1 and Procedure 5110.1P relating to student group meetings. Individual secondary schools may require the submission of such additional information as may be convenient in carrying out the purposes of Policy 5110.1 and Procedure 5110.1P. Principals should either grant or deny the application at least two (2) school days before the desired meeting date.