147. STUDENT CLUBS

1. Purpose

The Joint Operating Committee recognizes the educational values inherent in student participation in student clubs and supports the concept of student clubs for such purposes as building sound social relationships, developing interests in a specific area, and gaining an understanding of the elements and responsibilities of good citizenship.

2. Definition

For purposes of this policy, student clubs shall be those that are sponsored or approved by the JOC and are conducted wholly or in part outside the regular school day; are marked by student participation in the process of initiation, planning, organizing, and execution; and are equally available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate.

Student club activities are defined as activities not directly related to or a component of CCTI curriculum.

3. Authority

The Joint Operating Committee shall make the facilities, supplies and equipment of the school available and shall assign staff members for the support of student clubs for students. Such availability and assignment shall be in accordance with the Equal Access Act.

The Joint Operating Committee reserves the right to approve or disapprove the establishment of all student clubs and specific activities. Every student club shall adopt an acceptable constitution and bylaws. Whenever a student club is an affiliate of a national, state or regional organization, local policies and procedures will take precedence in all cases where a conflict develops. Every school club shall plan and complete an appropriate plan of work annually. All student clubs need prior JOC approval.

4. Delegation of Responsibility

The Principal or designee shall develop and disseminate procedures to implement the extracurricular activities.

The administration shall conduct an on-going evaluation of all student clubs to ensure full compliance with this policy.
5. Guidelines

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<thead>
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<th>20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq</th>
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<td>Student clubs shall:</td>
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<td>1. Work in cooperation with the advisor and administration of the club at all times;</td>
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<td>2. Exist for the benefit of students; and</td>
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<td>3. Extend membership opportunities to all district students who meet reasonable standards of conduct and scholarship. Student clubs may not restrict membership on the basis of race, sex, national origin or other arbitrary criteria.</td>
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<td>4. Operate in a manner to promote a positive image of CCTI, its students, and staff.</td>
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Administrative regulations governing the use of school facilities shall abide by the Equal Access Act in the creation of "limited open forum." All noncurricula-related student clubs, regardless of religious or political content, shall have the same opportunities as any other such activity to operate on school grounds.

Equal Access Act

The school shall provide secondary students the opportunity for non-curriculum related student groups to meet on the school premises during non-instructional time for the purpose of conducting a meeting within the limited open forum on the basis of religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings.

Such meetings must be voluntary, student-initiated, and not sponsored in any way by the school, its agents or employees. Non-instructional time is the time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends.

The meetings cannot materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the educational activities in the school.

The Principal or designee shall establish the length of sessions, number per week, and other limitations deemed reasonably necessary.

The school retains the authority to maintain order and discipline on school premises in order to protect the well-being of students and employees and to ensure that student attendance at such meetings is voluntary.

References:
Equal Access Act - 20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq
School Code - 24 P.S. Sec. 511, 1850.1
Joint Operating Committee Policy - 103, 110, 218