

Policy

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS; ASSOCIATIONS

Student self-government and service organizations sponsored by the school have an important place in the educational program because, when properly organized and operated, they:

- A. Extend and reinforce the instructional program;
- B. Give students practice in democratic self-government;
- C. Build student morale and a spirit of positive support for the school;
- D. Honor outstanding student achievement; and
- E. Provide wholesome social and recreational activities.

To guide the certified staff and students in organizations, the Passaic Board of Education sets forth the following policy guide:

A. Student Government Association

The Board acknowledges the importance of offering students the opportunity to participate in self-government within the school. Students shall have the right to organize, conduct meetings, elect officers and representatives and petition the Board.

The student council shall be fully responsible for the planning and organization of its own governance, student social events, fund-raising projects, and activities and projects suggested by the students except that all such activities must first be approved by the Principal or his/her designee, and when required by the board policy, the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education.

The Board shall appoint a qualified member of the faculty to serve as advisor to student council activities.

B. Secret Societies

In accordance with the Code of Student Conduct board policy, membership in secret fraternities, sororities, and clubs is prohibited throughout the school district. Students will be disciplined for infractions of this policy in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct and the Suspension and Expulsion board policies.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS; ASSOCIATIONS (continued)

C. Non-School Clubs

All clubs not specifically authorized and organized by the school are considered to be non-school clubs. Non-school club activities may only conduct activities with prior authorization by the Passaic Board of Education. Student participation in non-school club activities on district property may be subject to disciplinary action as identified in the Code of Student Conduct board policy.

Activities which are contrary to the best interest of the school and reflect on the reputation of the school are forbidden, including:

1. Initiation and hazing on the school grounds or at school-sponsored events;
2. Indulging in group functions that violate city, state, or federal laws or county ordinances, and Board policy.

Although recognizing that students may belong to any outside organization that they choose, the Board shall not permit such organizations to carry out any of their activities in the schools nor to advertise their activities or influence in any way in school buildings with explicit prior board approval.

The Board considers the following actions forms of advertising and prohibits:

- A. Wearing, in school, emblems or insignia of such organization, including those worn on sweaters and other articles of apparel in violation of the district School Uniforms board policy; and
- B. Wearing, in school, any items which advertise the initiation procedures of such groups, including ribbons, bows or corsages.

Students violating any part of this policy are subject to the discipline measures identified the Code of Student Conduct board policy.

First Reading:	November 3, 2016
Second Reading:	November 21, 2016
Adopted:	November 21, 2016

<u>Legal References:</u>	<u>N.J.S.A.18A:42-5</u> Certain student organizations
	<u>N.J.S.A.18A:42-6</u> Organizations forbidden in high schools; rules; exceptions

<u>Cross References:</u>	1140	Distribution of materials by students and staff
	1210	Community organizations
	1230	School-connected organizations
	1314	Fundraising by outside organizations
	1330	Use of school facilities
	3400	Accounts
	3450	Money in school buildings

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS; ASSOCIATIONS (continued)

- 3453 School activity funds
- 3571 Financial reports
- 3571.4 Audit
- 5131 Code of Student Conduct
- 6145 Extracurricular activities
- 6145.7 Social Events and Meetings
- 6153 Field trips