

Article VIII.A.22. Clubs in Secondary Schools

A. Statement of Policy

1. Granite School District Board of Education maintains a “limited open forum” for clubs pursuant to the following guidelines.
2. Curriculum clubs are authorized in grades 7 – 12. Curriculum clubs are sponsored by District schools and may receive leadership, direction, and support from the school and the District.
3. *Non-curriculum clubs are authorized in grades 10 – 12 under state and federal laws and regulations only for the purpose of granting a place within the school for students to meet during non-instructional time. Non-curriculum clubs are student initiated. Their meetings, ideas and activities are not sponsored or endorsed in any way by the Board, the schools, or by school or District employees.*

B. Authority

This policy is authorized by and based on:

1. Utah Constitution Article X, Section 3
2. Duties and Powers of Local School Boards, Utah Code 53G-4-402
3. Federal Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. §4071
4. Limitations on Access for Student Clubs, Utah Code 53G-7-705
5. Authorization of Student Clubs, USBE R277-617

C. Definitions

1. “Administrator” means the school principal or assistant principal.
2. “Board” means the Granite School District Board of Education.
3. “Closed forum” means allowing only curriculum clubs.
4. “Club” means any student organization that meets during non-instructional time.
5. “Curriculum club” means a club:
  - a. whose subject matter is taught or will soon be taught in a regular course;
  - b. whose subject matter concerns the body of courses as a whole;
  - c. in which participation is required for a particular course; or

- d. in which participation results in academic credit.
- 6. “District” means the Granite School District.
- 7. “Limited open-forum” means allowing both curriculum and lawful non-curriculum clubs.
- 8. “Monitor” means the faculty member assigned by the administrator to a religious club to ensure compliance with this policy. The assignment of a monitor does not constitute sponsorship of the club.
- 9. “Non-curriculum club” means any club whose subject or purpose is not included in the definition of curriculum club.
- 10. “Non-instructional time” means time set aside by the school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends.
- 11. “Sponsor” means the school faculty member assigned by the administrator to work with a curriculum club.
- 12. “Sponsorship” includes the act of promoting, leading, or directing a curriculum club or its meetings.
- 13. “Supervisor” means the faculty member assigned by the administrator to a non-curriculum non-religious club to ensure compliance with this policy. The assignment of a supervisor does not constitute sponsorship of the club.
- 14. “Superintendent” means the Superintendent of Granite School District.

D. Application for Authorization for Curriculum and Non-Curriculum Clubs

1. Authorization for Curriculum Clubs

Faculty members or students proposing curriculum clubs must submit written application for authorization on the District Club Authorization Form no later than October 15 of the year of the club’s inception. Clubs whose membership is determined by student body election, and clubs which are governed by the Utah High Schools Athletic Association, are exempt from the authorization requirements. Written application for authorization of curriculum clubs must include:

- a. Recommended club name;
- b. Statement of the club’s purpose, goals, and activities indicating all of the following that may apply;
  - i. athletic
  - ii. business/economic

- iii. agriculture
  - iv. art/music/performance
  - v. science
  - vi. gaming
  - vii. religious
  - viii. community service/social justice
  - ix. other
- c. Recommended meeting times, dates, and places; and
  - d. The proposed club charter, constitution, or bylaws which shall include at least:
    - i. the rules of organization,
    - ii. the election of officers,
    - iii. objective membership criteria,
    - iv. meeting rules of order,
    - v. procedures for amending the rules, and
    - vi. a statement that the club will comply with Utah Code 53G-7-705, USBE R277-617, the High School Resource Guide for Parents and Teachers on Teaching Human Sexuality, and all other applicable laws, rules, or policies.

2. Annual Authorization for Non-Curriculum Clubs

Non-curriculum clubs should have a minimum of 7 members. Students proposing non-curriculum clubs must submit written application for authorization on the District Club Authorization Form no later than October 15 of each year. Written application for authorization of non-curriculum clubs must include:

- a. Recommended club name;
- b. Statement of the club's purpose, goals, and activities indicating all of the following that may apply:
  - i. athletic
  - ii. business/economic

- iii. agriculture
  - iv. art/music/performance
  - v. science
  - vi. gaming
  - vii. religious
  - viii. community service/social justice
  - ix. other
- c. Recommended meeting times, dates, and places; and
  - d. The proposed club charter, constitution, or bylaws which shall include at least:
    - i. the rules of organization,
    - ii. the election of officers,
    - iii. objective membership criteria,
    - iv. meeting rules of order,
    - v. procedures for amending the rules, and
    - vi. a statement that the club will comply with Utah Code 53G-7-705, USBE R277-617, the High School Resource Guide for Parents and Teachers on Teaching Human Sexuality, and all other applicable laws, rules, or policies.

E. Review of Applications by the Administrator for Curriculum and Non-Curriculum Clubs

1. Procedures for Reviewing Applications for Curriculum Clubs

The administrator shall review applications for authorization of curriculum clubs on a case-by-case basis. Before granting authorization, the administrator must find: (1) that the proposed club would meet this policy's definition of curriculum club and (2) that the proposed club's purpose and activities comply with this policy.

The administrator may request additional information from the faculty sponsor, from students proposing the club, or from the District Compliance Officer if desired.

a. Determining Curriculum Relatedness

The administrator determines curriculum relatedness by strictly applying this policy's definition of curriculum club to the club application. If the administrator finds that the proposed club is a curriculum club, the administrator shall continue to review the application as an application for a curriculum club. If the administrator finds that the proposed club is a non-curriculum club, the administrator may return the application to the faculty member or students proposing the club for amendment, or review the application as an application for a non-curriculum club.

b. Purpose and Activities for Curriculum Clubs

- i. The administrator shall deny authorization to any club or require changes prior to granting authorization if the administrator finds that its purpose or activities would:
  - A. Violate the law or administrative rules or advocate such imminent violation. This restriction does not apply to appropriate discussions concerning the changing of laws or rules, or to actions taken through appropriate channels or procedures to effectuate such changes.
  - B. Harass or denigrate any person or advocate such imminent action.
  - C. Intend to cause a person to fear to freely exercise or enjoy any right secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States or the state of Utah, or advocate such imminent action.
  - D. Advocate or approve sexual activity outside of marriage, or involve presentations in violation of laws or regulations governing sex education or privacy rights of individuals or families (see High School Resource Guide for Parents and Teachers on Teaching Human Sexuality).
  - E. Include any effort to engage in or conduct mental health therapy, counseling, or psychological services for which a license would be required under Title 58, Chapters 60 or 61 of the Utah Code.
- ii. The administrator may request information and shall require changes in a club's proposed purpose or activities which the administrator finds necessary to:
  - A. Prevent any material or substantial interference with the orderly operation of the school;

- B. Protect the well-being of students and faculty;
- C. Ensure compliance with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and policies;
- D. Maintain order and discipline;
- E. Protect the rights of parents and students;
- F. Maintain boundaries of socially appropriate behavior; or
- G. Restrict activities harmful to the school's educational mission.

iii. In deciding the purpose and activities of clubs, students should consider ways in which the club can be of service to the school or community.

c. Names for Curriculum Clubs

The administrator shall approve the names of curriculum clubs consistent with law and policy.

2. Procedures for Reviewing Applications for Non-Curriculum Clubs

The administrator shall review applications for authorization of non-curriculum clubs on a case-by-case basis. Before granting authorization, the administrator must find: (1) the proposed club's purpose and activities are lawful and comply with this policy and (2) the proposed name complies with this policy.

The administrator may request additional information from the students proposing the club or from the District Compliance Officer if desired; and may request that a school committee made up of faculty, parents, and students make recommendations to the administrator on a case-by-case basis.

a. Purpose and Activities of Non-Curriculum Clubs

- i. The administrator shall deny authorization to any club or require changes prior to granting authorization if the administrator finds that its purpose or activities could:
  - A. Violate the law or administrative rules or advocate such imminent violation. This restriction does not apply to appropriate discussions concerning the changing of laws or rules, or to actions taken through appropriate channels or procedures to effectuate such changes.
  - B. Harass or denigrate any person or advocate such imminent action.

- C. Intend to cause a person to fear to freely exercise or enjoy any right secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States or the state of Utah, or advocate such imminent action.
  - D. Advocate or approve sexual activity outside of marriage, or involve presentations in violation of laws or regulations governing sex education or privacy rights of individuals or families (see High School Resource Guide for Parents and Teachers on Teaching Human Sexuality).
  - E. Include any effort to engage in or conduct mental health therapy, counseling, or psychological services for which a license would be required under Title 58, Chapters 60 or 61 of the Utah Code.
- ii. The administrator may request information and shall require changes in a club's proposed purpose or activities which the administrator finds necessary to:
- A. Prevent any material or substantial interference with the orderly operation of the school;
  - B. Protect the well-being of students and faculty;
  - C. Ensure compliance with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and policies;
  - D. Maintain order and discipline;
  - E. Protect the rights of parents and students;
  - F. Maintain boundaries of socially appropriate behavior; or
  - G. Restrict activities harmful to the school's educational mission.
- iii. In deciding the purpose and activities of clubs, students should consider ways in which the club can be of service to the school or community.

b. Names for Non-Curriculum Clubs

The administrator shall deny authorization of a club's name, or require changes prior to granting authorization, if the administrator finds that the proposed name:

- i. Does not reasonably reflect the nature, purposes, and activities of the club,

- ii. Could result in undue disruption of school operations,
- iii. Could subject students to harassment or persecution,
- iv. Implies violation of (1)(A) of this section, or
- v. Implies inappropriate association with outside organizations or groups.

F. Granting or Denying Authorization

The administrator shall grant authorization to curriculum and non-curriculum clubs whose applications are found to meet the requirements of this policy and shall deny authorization to proposed clubs which do not.

G. Authorized Curriculum and Non-Curriculum Clubs

1. Faculty Oversight

The administrator will make faculty assignments for each curriculum and non-curriculum club to provide oversight consistent with this policy and the needs of the school.

a. Curriculum Clubs

The administrator will annually assign faculty members as sponsors of curriculum clubs. Faculty sponsors organize and direct the purpose and activities of the curriculum club.

b. Non-Curriculum Clubs

The administrator will determine whether the club is a religious club.

i. Non-Curriculum Non-Religious Clubs

The administrator will assign faculty members to serve as supervisors for non-curriculum non-religious clubs. Faculty supervisors provide oversight to ensure compliance with the approved club charter, constitution, or bylaws and with applicable laws, rules, and this policy.

ii. Non-Curriculum Religious Clubs

The administrator will assign faculty members to serve as monitors for religious clubs. Faculty monitors provide oversight to ensure compliance with the approved club charter, constitution, or bylaws, and with applicable laws, rules, and this policy. Faculty monitors and other district or government employees shall not participate in religious clubs in any other capacity. No faculty member or school or district employee shall be required to attend any religious club



meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to the beliefs of the employee.

2. Facilities

The administrator will determine and assign facilities for curriculum-related and non-curriculum related clubs consistent with the needs of the school.

a. Curriculum Clubs

- i. In assigning facilities, the administrator may give priority to curriculum clubs over non-curriculum clubs.
- ii. The school may provide financial or other support to curriculum clubs.

b. Non-Curriculum Club

- i. No preference or priority shall be given among non-curriculum clubs.
- ii. The school shall provide only the space for non-curriculum club meetings. No other expenditure of public funds is authorized.
- iii. Each school may establish the non-instructional times during which non-curriculum clubs may meet (e.g. non-curriculum club meetings at Excellent High school will be scheduled between 2:30 and 6:00 PM Monday through Friday).
- iv. Each school may set the number of hours non-curriculum clubs may meet per month except that all non-curriculum clubs must be treated equally (e.g. up to 4 hours of meetings per month may be scheduled for individual non-curriculum clubs at Excellent High School).

3. Communications

a. Curriculum Clubs

Each school shall determine what access curriculum clubs shall be given to the school newspaper, yearbook, bulletin boards, public address system, etc.

b. Non-Curriculum Clubs

Each school shall determine what access non-curriculum clubs shall be given to the school newspaper, school yearbook, bulletin boards, public address system, etc.; provided that all non-curriculum clubs are given equal access to communications media.

4. Membership

a. Curriculum Clubs

Membership in individual curriculum clubs is governed by the following guidelines:

- i. Membership is limited to students who are currently registered *in the District*. Members from schools other than the sponsoring school must have parental permission.
- ii. Clubs may require that prospective members try out based on objective criteria outlined in the application materials. Try-outs shall not require activities which violate laws, policies, or regulations of the State or District.
- iii. Membership may not be limited on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, or disability.
- iv. A parent/guardian signature on the District approval form is required for membership.
- v. Other guidelines as determined by the administrator.

b. Non-Curriculum Clubs

Membership in individual non-curriculum clubs is governed by the following guidelines:

- i. Membership is limited to students who are currently registered *in the school*.
- ii. Clubs may require that prospective members try out based on objective criteria outlined in the application materials. Try-outs shall not require activities which violate laws, policies, or regulations of the State or District.
- iii. Membership may not be limited on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, or disability.
- iv. A parent/guardian signature on the District approval form is required for membership.
- v. Attendance or participation in club meetings or activities is limited to members, except that non-school persons may attend on occasion to make presentations if approved in advance by the administrator. Non-school persons shall not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend meetings or activities of clubs.

H. Review of Authorization

The administrator shall investigate any report or allegation that an authorized curriculum or non-curriculum club is participating in activities beyond the scope of its charter, constitution, or bylaws, or is in violation of any applicable law, rule, regulation, or policy. After meeting with the faculty sponsor, supervisor, or monitor and the students involved, the administrator may do any of the following:

1. Allow the original charter, constitution, or bylaws to be modified to include the activities if they are in compliance with the law, rules, regulations or policies;
2. Instruct the sponsor, supervisor or monitor not to allow similar violations in future;
3. Suspend the club's authorization pending further corrective action as determined by the principal; or
4. Terminate the club's authorization.

I. Appeal of Decisions Affecting Curriculum and Non-Curriculum Clubs

Any student directly affected by a decision made under this policy may appeal the decision by writing to the District Compliance Officer.

J. Evaluation

The Board will evaluate this policy at the Board meeting closest to one year from the policy's adoption. Factors to be considered shall include, but not be limited to:

1. The number and types of clubs, including clubs which existed prior to the policy's adoption and those authorized thereafter;
2. Time spent by administrators administrating this policy;
3. Faculty time spent sponsoring, supervising, and monitoring clubs;
4. Class time used for club related activities such as announcements;
5. Value of clubs to the education and leadership of District students.

K. Right to Close the Forum

The Board reserves the right to create a "closed forum" at any time during the school year or at any other time by allowing curriculum clubs only.

GRANITE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NEW CURRICULUM CLUB  
APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION

*Application required no later than **OCTOBER 15** of year of club's inception.*

Educator Sponsor SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Date of application \_\_\_\_\_ 2. School \_\_\_\_\_

3. Name of student submitting application \_\_\_\_\_

4. Recommended name of proposed club \_\_\_\_\_

5. Summary of proposed club's purpose and goals (see Charter, Constitution, Bylaws for details):

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6. Recommended regular meeting dates, times, places: \_\_\_\_\_

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7. Attach proposed Charter, Constitution or Bylaws that will govern this club. It should cover all guidelines, rules, and procedures needed for operation of club, and *must* include the following:

- A. A detailed description of club's purpose, goals, program, activities, meetings, etc.
- B. Rules and procedures for determining membership which:
  - i. may not limit participation or discriminate based on race, color, national origin, gender, or disability;
  - ii. requires students participating to be registered in Granite School District;
  - iii. requires parent/guardian signature on approval form; and
  - iv. requires that tryouts comply with applicable laws, regulations, and policies.
- C. Rules and procedures for decision making, governance, and if applicable, electing student officers.
- D. Rules and procedures for raising and spending funds, if applicable.
- E. Provisions for amending the club charter, constitution, or bylaws.
- F. A statement that the club understands and will comply with:
  - i. Utah Code 53G-7-702 to 712 regarding governance of school clubs;
  - ii. Utah Code 53G-10-402, Utah Code 53G-10-202, and Administrative Code R277-474 regarding, among other things, instruction on health and human sexuality; and
  - iii. Utah Code 26-53-101 to 301 and the District's policy on Student Head Injuries and Concussions, Article VIII.A.29.
- G. Any other provisions as needed to operate club.

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*For Office Use Only*

Administrator Checklist for Approval of Curriculum Club

Club Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Club Not Approved \_\_\_\_\_ School Year \_\_\_\_\_

Club's Charter, Constitution, Bylaws: Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Not Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Approved Name of Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved Faculty Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved Regular Meeting Dates, Times, Locations: \_\_\_\_\_

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Conditions or Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GRANITE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**NON-CURRICULUM CLUB**  
APPLICATION FOR AUTHORIZATION

*Annual Application Required. Submit to principal no later than **OCTOBER 15** of each year.*

Educator Supervisor or Monitor SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Date of application \_\_\_\_\_ 2. School \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Grade \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name of student submitting application \_\_\_\_\_

5. Recommended name of proposed club \_\_\_\_\_

6. Summary of proposed club's purpose and goals (see Charter, Constitution, Bylaws for details):

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\_\_\_\_\_

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7. Recommended regular meeting dates, times, places: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Attach proposed Charter, Constitution or Bylaws that will govern this club. It should cover all guidelines, rules, and procedures needed for operation of club and *must* include the following:

- A. A detailed description of club's purpose, goals, program, activities, meetings, etc.
- B. Rules and procedures for determining membership which:
  - i. may not limit participation or discriminate based on race, color, national origin, gender, or disability;
  - ii. requires students participating to be registered in Granite School District;
  - iii. requires parent/guardian signature on approval form;
  - iv. requires that tryouts comply with applicable laws, regulations, and policies;
  - v. requires at least seven members;
  - vi. limits meeting attendance to club members, except that non-school persons may attend on occasion to make presentations, if approved in advance by the school administration; and
  - vii. prohibits non-school personnel or students to direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend meetings or activities of non-curriculum clubs.
- C. Rules and procedures for decision making, governance, and if applicable, electing student officers.
- D. Rules and procedures, if applicable, for raising and spending funds.
- E. Provisions for amending the club charter, constitution, or bylaws.
- F. A statement that the club understands and will comply with:
  - i. Utah Code 53G-7-702 to 712 regarding governance of school clubs;
  - ii. Utah Code 53G-10-402, Utah Code 53G-10-202, and Administrative Code R277-474 regarding, among other things, instruction on health and human sexuality; and
  - iii. Utah Code 26-53-101 to 301 and the District's policy on Student Head Injuries and Concussions, Article VIII.A.29.
- G. Any other provisions as needed to operate club.

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*For Office Use Only*

Administrator Checklist for Approval of Non-Curriculum Club

Club Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Club Not Approved \_\_\_\_\_ School Year \_\_\_\_\_

Club's Charter, Constitution, Bylaws: Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Not Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Approved Name of Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved Faculty Supervisor or Monitor: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved Regular Meeting Dates, Times, Locations: \_\_\_\_\_

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Conditions or Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GRANITE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
**PARENT/GUARDIAN**  
**APPROVAL FORM for CURRICULUM CLUB**

(required for student membership in any curriculum club)  
Parents may call the school for additional information if needed.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Club \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT CERTIFICATION**

As the parent/guardian of the student listed above, I give my permission for this student to be a member of the above named curriculum club.

I have read a copy of the club's approved application form, signed by the principal, which includes:

- \* a summary of the club's purpose, goals, and activities;
- \* the name of the assigned faculty supervisor or monitor; and
- \* the group's regular meeting dates, times, and locations.

I understand that:

- \* copies of this club's charter, constitution, or bylaws are available at the school;
- \* the club's charter, constitution, and bylaws must be consistent with applicable state and federal regulations, and the club shall comply with all District policies;
- \* copies of applicable laws, regulations, and policies are available at the school; and
- \* faculty sponsors will organize and direct the purpose and activities of the curriculum club.

I also understand that the school may verify my approval of this student's membership in this club.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT CERTIFICATION**

"I certify that the above information is true and accurate,  
and that my parent/guardian personally signed this approval form."

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**GRANITE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PARENT/GUARDIAN  
APPROVAL FORM for NON-CURRICULUM CLUB**

(required for student membership in any non-curriculum club)  
Parents may call the school for additional information if needed.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Club \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT CERTIFICATION**

As the parent/guardian of the student listed above, I give my permission for this student to be a member of the above named non-curriculum club.

I have read a copy of the club's approved application form, signed by the principal, which includes:

- \* a summary of the club's purpose, goals, and activities;
- \* the name of the assigned faculty supervisor or monitor; and
- \* the group's regular meeting dates, times, and locations.

I understand that:

- \* copies of this club's charter, constitution, or bylaws are available at the school;
- \* the club's charter, constitution, and bylaws must be consistent with applicable state and federal regulations, and the club shall comply with all District policies;
- \* copies of applicable laws, regulations, and policies are available at the school;
- \* this club is authorized under state and federal regulations only for the purpose of granting a place in the school for students to meet during non-instructional time;
- \* this club and its meetings, ideas, and activities are initiated by students and are not sponsored or endorsed in any way by the Board of Education, the District, the school or by any school or district employee;
- \* faculty supervisors or monitors and other district or government employees may be present at club meetings in a non-participatory capacity.

I also understand that the school may verify my approval of this student's membership in this club.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT CERTIFICATION**

"I certify that the above information is true and accurate,  
and that my parent/guardian personally signed this approval form."

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_