

NON-ATHLETIC STUDENT ACTIVITIES, CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

General

School-sponsored student activities are a vital part of students' lives and of the total school program. Therefore, the Board encourages the certified staff and students to plan and implement appropriate student activities to meet the needs of the students.

Under Control of Principal

School-sponsored student activities must have prior approval by the local school principal and activity sponsor. All school-sponsored student activities are under the control of the local school principal or designee.

School-sponsored activities will be adequately supervised by certified school staff.

School principals are responsible for producing a written plan that encompasses all school-sponsored activities.

Official School Activity Defined

A school activity is defined as any educational experience or curricular or extracurricular event that is scheduled by the school principal, and school principal has made specific assignments to any employee(s) to teach, coordinate, monitor, advise, sponsor, or chaperon said activity as a part of employment responsibilities.

School-sponsored clubs and organizations are under the direct control of school officials. Such clubs and organizations shall not be affiliated or associated with any political or religious organization or any organization which denies membership on the basis of race, creed, color, or political beliefs.

All school-sponsored clubs and organizations must meet the following criteria:

1. Every school club or organization will be sponsored by a member of the faculty approved by the principal of the school. Every club or organization will have the approval of the sponsor, in advance, for the time and place of all activities sponsored by the organization. Activities held outside the school or off campus must have the approval of the principal. A sponsor or substitute sponsor assigned by the principal will be present throughout all activities.
2. Every school-sponsored club will have a constitution approved by the Student Council and/or by the principal. Such constitution shall be kept on file in the school office.
 - a. The constitution shall contain a statement that all members must be students who are presently enrolled in the school.
 - b. The constitution shall contain qualifications for membership.

- c. The constitution shall contain a statement of the purposes of the club or organization. The purposes shall not be contrary to the welfare or best interest of the students or the school, or in conflict with the authority or responsibilities of the Board and its employees.
 - d. The constitution shall contain a statement that there is no affiliation with any political or religious organization, or with any organization which denies members on the basis of race, color, creed or political belief.
 - e. The constitution shall provide that the collection or dispersal of school-sponsored club funds will be in accordance with the regulations set forth by the school and school system.
 - f. The constitution will provide that speakers who are neither members of the student body, faculty, or administration of the school must have the approval of the sponsor and the principal.
 - g. Every club will act only in accordance with its constitution and shall abide by all policies of the school system and rules and regulations of the school.
3. Every school club, organization, or activity formed to foster the values inherent in ethnic cultures in an effort to recognize ethnic contributions to the American way of life shall promote a policy of open membership.
 4. Authorization to conduct activities as an organization recognized by the school administration may be denied or revoked if:
 - a. The organization participates in, advocates, aids, or knowingly permits conduct by its members or others subject to its direction or control, which is contrary to the welfare or best interests of the students or the school, or which is in conflict with the authority or responsibility of the Board or any of its officials or employees.
 - b. The organization participates in, advocates, or knowingly permits activities by its members or others subject to its direction or control which are not authorized by the constitution of the organization which has been approved by the Student Council and/or the principal of the school.
 - c. The organization fails to comply with any Board policy or such rules and regulations as may be developed by local schools.

SOURCE: Athens City Board of Education, Athens, AL

ADOPTED: Nov. 5, 1978; REVISED: Jun. 16, 1994; REVISED: May 21, 2009

LEGAL REF.: Ala. Code § 16-11-9 (1975); Ala. Code § 16-24B-4 (1975).