

Student Groups/Clubs

Policy: 6062

Section: 6000 - Students

I. **Policy Statement:** The South Summit School District Board of Education acknowledges that the educational goals of the school district are furthered by recognizing curricular clubs and those non-curricular student clubs which comply with this policy.

- A.1. Schools within the district may establish and maintain a limited open forum for student clubs pursuant to law, State Board of Education rules, and district policy. Notwithstanding, the Board of Education retains the right to create a closed forum in the district or at any of its schools at any time by allowing curricular clubs only.
2. The board hereby authorizes local schools within the district to review applications for club authorization. A local school principal shall review applications for authorization of clubs on a case-by-case basis. Before granting an authorization, the school shall find that the proposed club meets the requirements of a curricular club or a noncurricular club, and that the proposed club's purpose and activities comply with this Policy. A school shall grant authorization and school facilities use to curricular and noncurricular clubs whose applications are found to meet the requirements of this Policy, rules of the State Board of Education, and policies of the District and shall limit or deny authorization or school facilities use to proposed clubs that do not meet the requirements of this part, rules of the State Board of Education, and policies of the District. Authorization shall be denied to any proposed club which promotes or encourages a prohibited discriminatory practice. Authorization shall be denied to a proposed curricular club when the general purpose of the club promotes, degrades, or otherwise identifies a personal identity characteristic. Authorization shall be denied to a proposed noncurricular club when the club's general purpose degrades a personal identity characteristic.
3. Nothing in this Policy prohibits discussion of historical, cultural, religious, or social issues related to a personal identity characteristic within a club with membership that remains open, in relation to personal identity characteristics, consistent with state and federal nondiscrimination law.
4. Except as specifically provided for in this Policy, a proposed club may not be subjected to standards, requirements, or limitations based on the purpose or content of the club to which other clubs of the same

designation (curricular or noncurricular) are subject. A school may not, except as specifically provided for in this Policy, condition authorization of, restrict, or limit a club based on a political or policy position of the club.

Prohibition of Credit for Advocacy Activities—

B-5. Regardless of membership in a curricular or noncurricular club, a school may not grant a student academic credit, course credit, preferential grading treatment, or excused absences for participation in political advocacy, partisan activity, or public protest. This prohibition does not preclude instruction regarding civic processes, public policy, or governmental institutions so long as participation in political advocacy or public demonstration is not required or incentivized as a condition of academic credit or attendance.

Legal Reference:

Utah Code §53G-7-702(1) (2019) Student Clubs

Adopted Date: October 7, 2010

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Prior Revised Dates:
