

# **Lakeland Joint School District #272**

**15506 N Washington Street, Rathdrum, ID 83858**

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**~ Web [www.sd272.org](http://www.sd272.org)**



**LJSD Vision: A community committed to academic excellence ... dedicated to student success.**

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October 20, 2025

Dear [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Thank you for submitting your club application. After reviewing your request, I unfortunately have to deny approval at this time. As indicated in your application, Club America is associated with Turning Point USA, which is a political organization.

Per Board Policy 3225, "the District shall not sponsor clubs which advocate particular religious or political beliefs or ideas." I have included the policy with this letter along with your application.

Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rusty Taylor', written over a horizontal line.

Rusty Taylor  
Superintendent

Cc: Mr. Hoffman & Mr. Massey



**STUDENTS**

**3225**

Student Clubs : Equal Access

The Board of Trustees regards student clubs and organizations as an important part of the education and development of students. No school shall permit the organization of any extracurricular organization, activity, club or other organization of pupils under its jurisdiction, except when a formal application for the establishment of such organization is made to the administration of the school.

Definitions:

As used in this policy:

- (a) "School" shall mean any school in the Lakeland Joint School District.
- (b) "Club" shall mean a sponsored club of students of the school who wish to organize and meet to form common goals, objectives, or purposes, but does not include school activities.
- (c) "Sponsored Club" shall mean a club which is directly under the sponsorship, direction, and control of the school. Clubs are restricted to subjects offered at the school, supported by the school, and directed by school staff.
- (d) "Non-participating capacity" shall mean a person may not promote, lead or participate in any meeting.

The school within the district shall provide equal access and a fair opportunity for sponsored clubs to organize and to meet on school premises during the times established for such meetings.

Sponsored clubs shall be sponsored by a member of the faculty, staff, or administration of the school. The District shall not sponsor clubs which advocate particular religious or political beliefs or ideas. Any club whose activities are deemed by the principal to be disruptive of the everyday operations of the school will not be allowed to initiate meetings, nor continue to meet on school premises.

**Equal Access Regulation**

The following general guidelines will be observed in approving, establishing, and operating all clubs at Lakeland Joint School District schools.

1. Each proposed club must complete and submit a request form to the principal stating the name, specific purpose of the club, the membership requirements, the

activities of the club, and meeting dates and times, and any and all financial considerations for the club. Each proposed club shall have the student group perform a risk management assessment of the proposed club activities. The principal will forward the request to the Superintendent or superintendent designee for review. Once reviewed, the Superintendent shall submit the proposed club to the Board to either approve or deny the application.

2. Student participation in club activities and attendance at club meetings shall be voluntary and shall be limited to those students who are currently enrolled in the school district. All student groups meeting on school premises are required to open membership to all interested and/or eligible students. Clubs shall be allowed to meet on school premises before school, during the lunch period, and after school on days when school is in session. The time and place of all club meetings shall be subject to available space, conflicting activities programs, and the availability of the faculty sponsor or monitor. Students shall be responsible for ensuring the presence of a faculty sponsor prior to every meeting. Clubs will be allowed to meet on school premises during other times of the day only in extraordinary or exceptional circumstances as may be determined by the principal.
3. All clubs must comply with provisions of the school's student handbook.
4. No hazing of students shall be permitted.
5. The principal may deny the opportunity of any club to meet on school premises, and may deny permission of any non-school person to meet with or speak to a club on school premises, when there exists a substantial likelihood of material and substantial interference with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school, or if the meeting or activities in the meeting are, or will be, in violation of any district policy, law, or ordinance.
6. The principal may temporarily or permanently terminate the opportunity of any club to meet on school premises, in the future, if the club has materially or substantially interfered with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school, if the activities of the club have violated any law or ordinance, or if the club has violated any provision of any district policy.

For sponsored clubs, the following guidelines will apply:

- A. Each sponsored club will have a faculty or staff member appointed as sponsor. The sponsorship shall be approved by the principal.
- B. All activities of the club must have prior approval of the sponsor.
- C. Club funds shall be subject to deposit, audit and disbursement in accordance with the regulations of the school district. In the event a club collects any funds,

all funds must be turned into the school office to be deposited into the club's account. Requests for the expenditure of club funds may be made through the club officers and the sponsor with final approval of principal.

- D. The content and placement of club posters or advertisements shall be approved by the principal.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. §§ 4071-4074

Equal Access Act

Policy History:

Adopted on:

Revised on: December 14, 2022

Prior District Policy Article VII, Section A and Article VI, Section M.



# CLUB APPLICATION



**1. Name of School:**

Lakeland High School

**2. Grade band:**

9th through 12th grade

**3. Name of your club:**

Club America

**4. Name of the person submitting this application:**

[REDACTED]

**5. Name of student leader for the club:**

[REDACTED] (President)

**6. Name of staff supervisor/advisor:**

Mr. Pitassi

**7. What is the purpose of the club?**

Club America is Turning Point USA's high school club organization that is non-profit and non-partisan. The purpose of Club America is to empower high school students to build real-world skills, challenge the narrative, and lead with purpose. The organization aims to build confidence, sharpen communication skills, and form lifelong friendships rooted in shared values between students. We are encouraged to host multiple events and meetings each month which can include voter registration drives, handing out constitutions at events, hosting social events for students to connect, and talking and teaching about the Constitution and Bill of Rights. The purpose of this chapter is to promote and uphold the principles of limited government, fiscal responsibility, free markets, and constitutional rights on our campus through informed discussion and grassroots activism.

**8. What if any is the financial obligation of the District?**

There is no financial obligation of the District.

**9. To which class is this club aligned?**

This club aligns with history, government, and political science classes.

**a. Which State Standards would be met through participation in this club?**

We will try to cover and meet as many of the Idaho State Standards for American History as we can outlined in code 9-12.GOV.1 through 9-12.GOV.59 which outlines the standards for each of the following subtopics within American History including "Foundations of the American Political System," "Citizenship and Civic Participation," "Political Economy," "Function and Structure of the United States Political System," "The American Electoral System," and "The United States and the International System." These standards are extremely important for each and every Idaho student to not only learn, but truly understand in order to be an engaged and informed citizen.

**10. How often will you meet?**

The club will meet once a week during lunch and once a month after school. There will also be optional activities to participate off school grounds.

**11. Where will the meetings take place?**

The meeting will take place in Mr. Pitassi's room.

**12. What activities will you participate in?**

We will participate in three types of activities: educational, social, and activism. Our current plans include, but are not limited to: an intro to the club meeting with pizza provided, a meeting going over the Bill of Rights, a meeting with debate and donuts, a Schoolhouse Rock! watch party (an educational show teaching about history, grammar, science, etc. using catchy songs), a US history jeopardy meeting, voter registration drive, a friendsgiving for club members, a toy drive, and much more. We are in no way allowed to endorse any candidate in elections or express our stance on any bills or policies currently being voted on while representing Club America. Our activism portion of the club is solely to get students to be involved and educated citizens by registering them to vote and teaching about the importance of our founding documents. Our club plans to achieve our mission of educating students and promoting our message through tabling and distributing informational materials, bringing a diverse range of speakers to chapter meetings, and hosting thought provoking panels or debates.

### 13. What are your by-laws?

The link to our handbook:

[https://cdn.clubamerica.com/assets/Club%20America%20Chapter%20Handbook\\_Fall%202025.pdf](https://cdn.clubamerica.com/assets/Club%20America%20Chapter%20Handbook_Fall%202025.pdf) The link to our constitution (this is a sample/outline and will be added to once our club is official in order to represent our club's specific goals, needs, and passions) : <https://www.clubamerica.com/chapterconstitution> Some important parts of these two documents are: Our mission statement - Club America empowers the next generation of bold, free-thinking high school leaders. Our mission is to educate

students on the importance of freedom, free markets, and limited government—while building a strong network of trailblazers ready to lead in their schools and communities. Through civic engagement, peer-to-peer education, and student-led initiatives, Club America chapters spark conversations, register voters, and redefines what it means to be a young leader in America. Turning Point USA provides academic resources, which include: weekly activism pamphlets, short videos, free-of-charge contributor speeches, and in-person support by TPUSA staff. Our meetings - General meetings must be held at least once per month. Each meeting must include at least one activism or academic discussion topic. Additional meetings can be scheduled by the officers.

Club Requirements: Regardless of any amendments, the following must remain: At least three officer roles ( President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer) CHAPTER OBLIGATIONS CHAPTER OBLIGATIONS In order to remain an active Club America chapter, the club is responsible for: I. Maintaining an Executive Board/Officer Team with at least three positions: President, Vice President, and Treasurer. More positions may be required by the chapter' s school. II. Submitting a Chapter Charter Agreement form (found online). III. Organizing at least one (1) activism initiative per academic semester. IV. Remaining in communication with a Club America Field Representative on a regular basis. V. Adhering to Club America' s Chapter Code of Conduct and ensuring all operations are in accordance to 501(c)(3) guidelines.

CODE OF CONDUCT A Club America chapter is expected to adhere to the following conduct expectations: I. Chapters may never endorse any candidates running for public office. Leaders of the chapter may endorse candidates in their personal time, but may not do so on behalf of the chapter. II. Chapters may never campaign for political candidates or aid political campaigns in any manner (donate money, recruit campaign volunteers, etc.). Leaders of the chapter may do these activities in their personal time, but may not do so on behalf of the chapter. III. Chapters may never design, offer, or sell apparel that is not designed and approved by Club America's national headquarters. IV. Chapters may never host a speaker on campus without approval from Club America's national headquarters. MISSION STATEMENT - This isn' t just a club, it' s a MOVEMENT! Club America is where High School trailblazers, risk-takers, and leaders unite to make free thinking the new TRADITION. Club America' s students educate about the importance of freedom, free markets, and limited government. Through non-partisan debate, dialogue, and discussion, Club America chapter leaders are the community organizers of the future.

**14. What benefit will your club bring to your school?**

Club America is going to be extremely beneficial to students at Lakeland. Our mission is to empower the next generation of voters, leaders, and workers to be informed and engaged citizens. We aim to build confidence, sharpen communication skills, and form lifelong friendships for students. This club will not only give students a place to socialize, express their love for our country, and learn more about government workings, but also it will give them the real world skills to lead, speak up for themselves, and be a good citizen. This club will enhance its members already established knowledge of American History, Government, and Political Science through club meetings and events. Because of our educational approach and lack of affiliation with a political party, we are able to attract a wider range of students to join. We believe it is important to offer a non-partisan educational group for students who are independent or have mixed viewpoints. Club America will offer a forum for debate, and allow a wide variety of viewpoints to be heard. Club America also offers unmatched leadership opportunities for its members such as opportunities to attend national conferences like the Young Women's Leadership Summit, Student Action Summit, and many more. Club America also offers leadership training and scholarships to its members.