

POLICY 5260

Student Clubs

A. Definitions: ([Utah Code § 53G-7-701](#))

1. A “club” is a student organization that meets during non-instructional time.
2. “Instructional time” includes the time during which the school is responsible for a student and the student is required or expected to be actively engaged in a learning activity.
3. “Curriculum club” means a club that is school sponsored and that may receive leadership, direction, and support from the school or school district beyond providing a meeting place during non-instructional time. A secondary school curricular club must meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - a. The club’s subject matter is taught or will soon be taught in a regular course.
 - b. The club’s subject matter concerns the body of courses as a whole.
 - c. Participation in the club is required for a particular course; or
 - d. Participation in the club results in academic credit.
4. “Non-curricular club” is a student-initiated group that may be authorized and allowed school facilities use during non-instructional time in secondary schools by a school and school governing board in accordance with the provisions of state code. A non-curricular club’s meetings, ideas, and activities are not sponsored or endorsed in any way by the School Board, the school, or by school or school district employees.

B. The Board of Education will permit student clubs to be organized at the secondary level under the following restrictions:

1. All clubs will be organized with approval of, and under the supervision of, the school principal and staff. ([Utah Code § 53G-7-706](#))
2. Clubs may be either curricular or non-curricular in nature.
3. Student organizations whose membership is determined by student body or class elections are exempt from this provision as are activities that fall under the jurisdiction of the Utah High School Activities Association.

4. The school principal must petition the Board of Education or their designee for permission to organize a club.
 - a. The school principal, when petitioning for the organizing of a club, must submit the following information: ([Utah Code § 53G-7-703](#)) No petitions will be considered that do not have all of the following elements.
 - 1) Recommended club name
 - 2) Statement of the club's purpose, goals, and activities
 - 3) Statement of the club's categorization. Categorizations include
 - a) Athletic
 - b) business/economic
 - c) agriculture
 - d) art/music/performance
 - e) science
 - f) gaming
 - g) religious
 - h) community service/social justice, and
 - i) other
 - 4) The recommended meeting times, dates, and places
 - 5) A statement that the club will comply with the provisions of this part and all other applicable laws, rules, or policies; and
 - 6) Proposed budget including anticipated revenues and proposed expenditures
 - 7) Personal costs associated with the activity
5. The school or district has the right to deny the authorization of a club or require changes to the club before authorization is granted as provided for in [Utah Code § 53G-7-705](#).

6. Club membership requires written parental consent for student participation. ([Utah Code § 53G-7-708\(1\)](#))
7. A non-curricular club must have a minimum of three members to be authorized. ([Utah Code § 53G-7-704](#))
8. The Board of Education will not be responsible for transportation to or from club functions, nor for the purchasing of supplies, materials, equipment, etc., for club purposes.
9. Each club must have at least one faculty sponsor whose responsibility it shall be to organize and actively supervise club activities while providing the necessary oversight required under [Utah Code § 53G-7-706](#). Faculty sponsors shall be approved by the school's administration annually. ([Utah Code § 53G-7-706\(2\)\(a\)](#))
10. Club activities should be held on the respective school premises where possible and practicable. In using school facilities, however, the sponsor and club members will be responsible for conduct required by the Board concerning the use of school facilities.
11. The Board of Education reserves the right to suspend or revoke the charter of any club as a result of activities beyond the scope of the club's purpose, or violations of applicable law, rule, regulation, or policy.

[Utah Code § 53G-7-710](#)
12. A club's charter and/or proposed activities may not: ([Utah Code § 53G-7-705](#))
 - a. Encourage criminal or delinquent conduct;
 - b. Promote bigotry;
 - c. Involve human sexuality; or
 - d. Involve any effort to engage in or conduct mental health therapy, counseling, or psychological services for which a license would be required under state law.
13. A school or district may deny or limit the ability of a club to use school facilities in order to: ([Utah Code § 53G-7-705](#))
 - a. Protect the students or faculty;
 - b. Maintain order and discipline
 - c. Prevent interference with the orderly conduct of a school's educational activities;

- d. Protect the rights of parents and students;
- e. Maintain the boundaries of socially appropriate behavior;
- f. Ensure compliance with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and policies; or
- g. Respond if the activities of the club reflect any of the behaviors listed in Section 12 of this policy.

14. The administration may give priority to curricular clubs over non-curricular clubs when assigning school facilities for club meetings and activities. Preference or priority may not be given to one non-curricular club over another. Access to such things as the school newspaper, yearbook, bulletin boards, or public address system by non-curricular clubs is up to the school's administration, but all non-curricular clubs must be treated equally.

[Utah Code § 53G-7-707](#)

15. Membership in curriculum clubs may be limited to students who are currently attending the sponsoring school or school district. Membership in non-curricular clubs must be voluntary and is restricted to only those students enrolled at the school. ([Utah Code § 53G-7-708](#))

- C. The Board prohibits any fraternity, sorority, or secret society, or any organization composed wholly or in part of students of Box Elder School District schools which seeks to perpetuate itself by taking in additional members from the students enrolled on the basis of the decision of its membership, rather than upon the free choice of any student in the school, who is qualified under the rules of the school, to fill the special aims of the organization.
- D. If an application is denied or a club suspended or terminated by the school or the Board's designee, the club/proposed club has 10 school days from the date of the denial, suspension, or termination to file a written appeal to the Box Elder Board of Education. ([Utah Code § 53G-7-711](#))