

Activities**ORGANIZATIONS--CLUBS AND STUDENT ACTIVITY GROUPS**

I. Exemptions from Provisions of the Law

The law specifically exempts certain organizations (See **Exemptions**, Board Rule 6Gx13- 5C-1.041, page 3 of 6) from the provisions of the law; it is neither directly stated nor implied that a principal must approve junior organizations or societies sponsored by these groups for operation within the school center for which the principal is responsible. Therefore, principals should not approve junior organizations or societies sponsored by the above mentioned groups for operation within the school center for which they are responsible unless these organizations are willing to comply with the rules listed in this Board rule.

II. Approval of Organizations by School Authorities

All clubs and organizations approved by the principal to operate within the school center for which the principal is responsible must comply with the following administrative regulations. In determining a student's eligibility for membership in any approved club or activity, the principal may waive the stated requirements for subject area and conduct grades if the principal considers the situation or circumstance to be unusual and to warrant such action.

- A. The students' race, gender, color, creed, or political beliefs are not to be one of the factors in selecting members or officers for clubs and organizations.
- B. The decision of the membership cannot be one of the factors in selecting additional members. This shall not be applied to those organizations specifically exempt by statute.
- C. The charter and constitution setting forth the purposes, qualifications for membership, and the rules of conduct of each approved club or organization shall be kept on file and always available to all students and instructional personnel of the school.
- D. The school student activities should be grouped under five headings: elective office (student council and class government organizations), honors clubs, service clubs, interest clubs, and others.

- E. Any student who during the preceding three grading periods has no failing grades and no conduct grade below "C" should be eligible to seek elective office.
- F. Requirements for membership in honors clubs of national scope originate at the national level. Requirements for other honors clubs, including academic area related clubs, are based on scholarship, leadership, and service.
- G. The right to apply for membership in service clubs should be open to any student who during the preceding three grading periods has no failing grades and no conduct grade below "C." Screening procedures of a service club must not permit discrimination and must be approved by the principal.
- H. Interest and satisfactory conduct should be the only requirements for membership in service clubs.
- I. Performance skills, passing average, and good conduct should be the only criteria for becoming a member of all other activities, such as cheerleading, Girls Athletic Association, majorettes, etc.
- J. Each student shall be furnished with a list of all clubs and organizations approved by the school.
- K. There shall be no period of probationary membership.
- L. Hazing of members is prohibited.
- M. Only approved club insignia or jewelry may be worn by members.
- N. Dues shall be reasonable and not prohibitive.
- O. All meetings shall be held on school property in school facilities. This may be waived for special meetings and events upon the request of the faculty sponsor and the approval of the principal.
- P. A faculty sponsor shall be present at all meetings and all social events shall be adequately chaperoned.
- Q. All monies accruing to any school club or organizations shall be accounted for through the internal accounting system of the school.

- R. Students failing to maintain requirements for membership shall be suspended from membership until the requirements have been achieved.
- S. No club or organization shall carry on any activity or act in any way which is in violation of the rules of the Board.

Specific Authority: 230.22(2) F.S.

Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: 232.39(3) and (4) F.S.

History: THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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