

**File: JJA**

## **STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

Student organizations should contribute to student self-esteem and performance and should operate within the framework of state statutes, School Committee policies, and administrative procedures.

Each building Principal shall develop general guidelines for the establishment and operation of student organizations within the particular school. Among other provisions, such guidelines shall require the approval of the Principal prior to the formation of any club or organization in the school and the assignment of at least one faculty or designated adult advisor to each approved student organization. Within such guidelines will be provisions for a periodic review of all student organizations.

The formation of any student organization shall be reported to the Principal, Superintendent and School Committee.

All student organizations shall be required to open membership to all interested and/or eligible students.

Disruptive groups, secret societies, and/or gangs shall not receive recognition in any manner under this policy.

All forms of hazing in initiations shall be prohibited in a student organization. No initiation shall be held for a student organization which will bring criticism to the school system or be degrading to the student.

The faculty or designated adult advisor must attend every meeting of the student organization whether conducted on school premises or at another location.

### **Student Organizations - High Schools**

The Principal is authorized to deny requests by unauthorized student organizations desiring to meet or form in a particular school. The Principal shall inform the group of the reasons for the denial. The students and/or group may submit a written request to the Superintendent for review of the Principal's decision.

Legal Ref.: 603 CMR 26.06, Access to Equal Educational Opportunities: Extra-Curricular Activities

Cross Refs.: JICF, Gang Activities/Secret Societies  
JICFA, Prohibition of Hazing

Revised: February 12, 2014