

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Morehouse Parish School Board, recognizing the importance of worthwhile organizations in the school, encourages all students to participate in student organizations and club activities. Students shall have the right to form organizations within the school for cultural, social, athletic, and other authorized purposes which will enrich and extend their education. Such groups shall follow administrative regulations and procedures developed and maintained by the Superintendent or his/her designee governing the creation and operation of student organizations and clubs in accordance with School Board policy.

Student organizations or clubs shall not deny membership to any student because of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, or disability. Any form of secret society or club shall not be permitted.

Principals shall be responsible for approving or authorizing any student activity and/or organization and shall also be responsible for the operation and oversight of all student activities or organizations to assure compliance with administrative regulations. The following guidelines shall be observed in approving or authorizing student organizations or clubs:

1. All student clubs must have the approval of the principal and must have at least one faculty member as sponsor.
2. There shall be no restrictions on membership except as appropriate for students engaging in particular studies.
3. Participation in clubs may be curtailed by the administration to assure that students do not become overloaded with extracurricular activities to the detriment of their academic progress.

EQUAL ACCESS

As provided by the Federal *Equal Access Act*, any school which allows non-curriculum related groups access to school facilities during non-instructional time must adhere to the following criteria:

1. Equal access will not be denied on the basis of religious, political, philosophical or other content of such meetings or organizations;
2. The meetings are voluntary and student-initiated;
3. There is no sponsorship of the meetings by the school, the government, or its agents or employees;

4. Employees or agents of the school or government are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
5. The meetings do not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school;
6. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups; and
7. If access is given to school media such as bulletin boards, newspapers, or public address systems, it must be given to all non-curriculum related clubs on an equal basis.

STUDENT SECRET SOCIETIES

The Morehouse Parish School Board does not permit the existence of fraternities, sororities or similar secret societies in any of its schools.

Revised: March, 2025
Approved: June 3, 2025

Ref: 20 USC 4071-4074 (*Equal Access*); 20 USC 7905 (*Equal Access to Public School Facilities*); La. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§17:81, 17:2091; Board minutes, 6-3-25.