

ORGANIZATIONS; ASSOCIATIONS

The Holmdel Township Board of Education believes that clubs and instructionally related activities should be an integral part of the total program of the schools. Through such activities pupils have the opportunity to explore and develop their special interests as well as extend their knowledge in certain subjects beyond the classroom. A club may or may not be related directly to a subject area, but it must provide a worthwhile experience for its members. Generally, the chief requisite is continued or sustained interest. Activities which are contrary to the best interests of the school are forbidden.

As the needs and interests of the pupil body expand, the number and variety of clubs may change slightly from year to year.

To guide the certified staff and pupils in organizations, the Board of Education sets forth the following policy guide:

- A. The Student Advisory Board/student council is the organization through which pupils may express their opinions, provide input into the administration of the school, and participate in the management of school enterprises. The council shall promote leadership, initiative, and self-control among its members.
- B. School clubs and societies will be recognized as authorized school organizations if they are organized by the school, sponsored by school personnel, composed completely of current student body members, hold their meetings at school, have a democratic plan for the selection of members, establish aims which are educational, of school or community interest and meet all those conditions hereinafter set forth for recognized school-sponsored organizations. School-sponsored organizations shall be directed by a faculty adviser appointed in accordance with established district procedures.
- C. Secret societies: Membership in secret fraternities, sororities, and/or clubs is prohibited throughout the Holmdel Township Public Schools. The Superintendent is authorized to develop procedures concerning disciplinary action to be taken for violation of this policy.

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- D. Non-school clubs: All clubs not specifically authorized and organized by the school are considered to be non-school clubs and beyond the jurisdiction and responsibility of school authorities. Such non-school clubs shall not conduct activities during the school day or at other school functions without permission of the Superintendent. Non-school clubs may become recognized as school-sponsored clubs by conforming to the criteria for school clubs and societies stated earlier.

In addition, no school-sponsored organization shall practice any form of initiation activities that might be classified as hazing.

Source: Regular Board Meeting

Date: August 20, 1986

Revised: June 17, 1998

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:42-5 Certain student organizations declared harmful
N.J.S.A. 18A:42-6 Organizations forbidden in high schools; rules; exceptions

Cross Reference: 6145 Hazing

