The Classical Academy	Policies and Procedures
Policy Name:	Student Organizations (Secondary Schools)
Policy Number:	JJA-TCA
Original Date:	01/13/2020
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Category:	Students
Cabinet Level Owner:	Director of Academic Services

The Classical Academy (TCA) students in junior high and high schools shall be permitted to conduct meetings of student clubs or student organizations to meet on school premises during noninstructional time.

Meetings of all student clubs or organizations must be organized, scheduled, and conducted within the guidelines established by this policy and accompanying procedure.

For purposes of this policy, "noninstructional time" means time set aside by each school before actual classroom instruction begins or after actual classroom instruction ends.

Curriculum-related student organizations serve as an extension of the regular school curriculum and bear a direct relationship to and alignment with Colorado Academic Standards. The function of curriculum-related student organizations is to enhance the participants' educational experience and supplement the course materials within the educational program of the schools. Curriculum-related student organizations must articulate how the content and activities of the proposed student organization will extend the regular school curriculum and how they align with the Colorado Academic Standards. Student organizations meeting these criteria and approved by the principal, or designee, will be deemed to be officially recognized, school-sponsored student organizations. Additionally, as stated in JJA-R-TCA, some organizations are considered to be part of the school program and are not required to request recognition when operating under the direction of the principal.

Secondary school students are also permitted to organize and conduct meetings of noncurriculum-related student organizations to pursue activities outside of the school curriculum, subject to the provisions of this policy. Such organizations must be student initiated and directed, and persons not attending school in this District, parents, school personnel (other than those serving in a supervisory capacity), or any other non-school persons are prohibited from directing, conducting, controlling, or regularly attending the activities of a noncurricular student group. Noncurriculum-related student organizations shall not be deemed to be school sponsored or endorsed but must be supervised by a TCA staff member.

All proposed student organizations shall use the TCA application that can be found in JJA-E-TCA. The principal, or designee, will communicate a final decision to all proposals using the submitted TCA application.

All student groups meeting on school premises shall be open to and limited to all students currently enrolled in the sponsoring school on a voluntary basis. Approval or disapproval of noncurriculum-related student organizations may not be based upon any specified threshold of numerical size. Student organizations may establish academic qualifications for membership where necessarily related to the purposes of the organization. No student shall be denied membership on account of his or her race, color, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, sex (which includes marital status), sexual orientation (which includes transgender), disability or need for special education services. Fraternities, sororities, and/or secret societies shall not receive recognition in any manner under this policy. Attendance at all meetings must be voluntary.

All forms of hazing or other initiation activities that are likely to be degrading to a student or bring criticism to TCA shall be prohibited in any group meeting on school premises.

Curriculum-related student organizations shall be sponsored and supervised by one or more of the members of the school staff, approved by the principal. Staff sponsors shall participate in the supervision and direction of all activities of the organization and shall attend all meetings.

Noncurriculum-related student organizations shall not have a staff sponsor. However, a member of the school's staff shall attend every meeting or activity of such organizations as a monitor for purposes of general supervision. The organization shall be responsible to assure the presence of a staff monitor for its meetings. No school employee shall be compelled to attend a meeting of any student organization if the content of such meeting is contrary to the beliefs of that school employee. School employees present at any meeting of a noncurriculum-related student organization which includes religious worship, prayer, or practice, or is identified as having a religious purpose, shall attend in a nonparticipatory capacity only.

TCA, through the building principal or his or her designee, retains the authority to prohibit meetings which would be otherwise unlawful. Further, nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit the authority of the school to maintain discipline on school premises, to protect the well-being of students and staff, and to assure that attendance at meetings is voluntary.

In providing equal access to school facilities for noncurriculum-related groups, TCA is not expressing any opinion or approval of the subject matter discussed at any meeting nor is it advocating or supporting in any manner the point of view expressed by any student or group meeting as allowed by this policy.

Noncurricular student groups shall not be denied equal access to school facilities solely on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of any speech at such meetings, except as otherwise provided in this policy. No public funding or support shall be extended to any noncurriculum-related student organization other than the opportunity to meet on school premises on an equal basis as other student organizations. Access to school publications and other information systems will be provided in a manner that is consistent with practices uniformly applied and within applicable constitutional constraints.

Websites and Social Media: Only approved student organizations that have been approved as curriculum-related student organizations, will be listed and/or promoted using school or district websites and/or social media channels.

Daily Announcements: Only approved student organizations that have been approved as curriculum-related student organizations will be advertised and promoted using daily PA, television, or any other means of delivering a daily announcement.

Advertising in Schools: Only approved student organizations that have been approved as curriculum-related student organizations shall advertise in school common areas, including hallways, cafeterias, gymnasiums, and the like. Non-curriculum student organizations can advertise using the schools identified location, such as a community bulletin board.

School Publications: Only approved student organizations that have been approved as curriculum-related student organizations will be recognized, advertised, and promoted using school publications, including but not limited to, school newspapers, and yearbooks.

Any student organization, whether school sponsored or not school sponsored, shall not engage in any activity which is contrary to law, District policy, TCA policy, or school rules; which disrupts or clearly threatens to disrupt the orderly operation of the school; or which would adversely affect the health, safety, or welfare of any students or staff members. Student organizations shall comply with applicable TCA policies and regulations concerning the handling of money and may not extend the credit of TCA. Failure to comply with these provisions shall be grounds for revocation of the right to continue to conduct meetings under this policy.

This TCA Policy replaces ASD20 Policy JJA Student Organizations.

Legal References
20 U.S.C. §§ 4071-74 (Equal Access Act)

Cross References
JJA-R-TCA Student Organizations Procedures
JJA-E-TCA Student Organizations Application

Policy Revision History

Date	Revision Details	Revised By
1/13/2020	Creation of policy	Secondary Principals