

Weakley County Board of Education



Monitoring:	Descriptor Term: Student Equal Access (Limited Public Forum)	Descriptor Code: 4.802	Issued Date: 2/5/2009
-------------	--	---------------------------	--------------------------

- 1
2 Before the beginning or after the end of a school day, students in grades 6 through 12 may
3 initiative non-curriculum-related meetings regardless of the religious or political nature of the
4 meetings.^{1 2 3}
5
6 No funds shall be expended by the school for any such meeting beyond the incidental cost
7 associated with providing meeting space. Groups meeting under this policy shall be required to
8 pay a reasonable fee for compensating school personnel in the supervision of the activity.
9
10 No student may be compelled to attend or participate in a meeting under this policy.
11
12 A student or a group of students who wish to conduct a meeting under this policy must file an
13 application with the principal at least three days prior to the proposed date.
14
15 The principal shall approve the meeting if from the application he determines that:
16
17 1. The meeting is voluntary and student-initiated;
18 2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting or its content by the school, the government or its
19 agents or employees;
20 3. The meeting will not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the
21 school's educational activities or conflict with other previously scheduled meetings;
22 4. Employees of the district are to be present in a non-participatory monitoring capacity;
23 however, no employee shall be required to attend in this capacity if the content of the
24 meeting is contrary to the beliefs of the employee; and
25 5. Non-school persons will not direct, control or regularly attend.

Legal References:

¹ 20 USCA § 4071

² *Westside Community Schools v. Mergens*, 496 US 226 (1990)

³ TCA 49-6-2904

Cross References:

4.803 Recognition of Religious Beliefs

4.805 Prayer and Period of Silence