

Dickson County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in November	Descriptor Term: Student Equal Access (Limited Public Forum)	Descriptor Code: 4.802	Issued Date: 04/26/12
		Rescinds:	Issued:

1 Before the beginning or after the end of a school day, students in grades 9 through 12 may initiate
2 noncurriculum-related meetings regardless of the religious or political nature of the meetings.^{1,2,3}

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4 No funds shall be expended by the school for any such meeting beyond the incidental cost associated
5 with providing meeting space. Groups meeting under this policy shall be required to pay a reasonable
6 fee for compensating school personnel in the supervision of the activity.

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8 No student may be compelled to attend or participate in a meeting under this policy.

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10 A student or a group of students who wish to conduct a meeting under this policy must file an applica-
11 tion with the principal at least three days prior to the proposed date.

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13 The principal shall approve the meeting if from the application he determines that:

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15 1. The meeting is voluntary and student-initiated;
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17 2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting or its content by the school, the government or its agents
18 or employees;
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20 3. The meeting will not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of the school's
21 educational activities or conflict with other previously scheduled meetings;
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23 4. Employees of the district are to be present in a non-participatory monitoring capacity; however,
24 no employee shall be required to attend in this capacity if the content of the meeting is contrary
25 to the beliefs of the employee; and
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27 5. Nonschool persons will not direct, control or regularly attend.
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Legal References:

- 37 1. 20 U.S.C.A § 4071
38 2. *Westside Community Schools v. Mergens*, 496 U.S. 226 (1990)
39 3. TCA 49-6-2904

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Cross References:

- 37 Recognition of Religious Beliefs 4.803
38 Prayer and Period of Silence 4.805