

5820 STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Watchung Borough Board of Education authorizes organization of a student council.

The Board of Education will recognize the student council in order to:

- A. Give students practical experience in organizing, planning and effecting outcomes;
- B. Develop student leadership;
- C. Provide a learning experience in democratic decision-making;
- D. Offer another avenue toward the realization of the goals of this district.

The Board of Education shall appoint qualified members of the faculty to serve as advisors to student council activities.

To guide the certificated staff and students in organizations, the Board sets forth the following policy guide:

- A. **School Clubs and Societies:** 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 education, of school interest or community interest and meet all those conditions hereinafter set forth for recognized school-sponsored organizations. A faculty advisor appointed by the Principal shall direct school sponsored organizations. School clubs and societies shall be open to all interested students;
- B. **Secret Societies:** Membership in secret fraternities, sororities, and clubs is prohibited throughout the school district. The Superintendent is authorized to develop procedures concerning disciplinary action to be taken for violation of this policy;
- C. **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 clubs may not portray themselves as being in any way affiliated with the district.



However, should these groups (non-school clubs) conduct activities on school property, at school-sponsored activities or as a carry-over into the school day or reflect on the reputation of the school, the Superintendent is authorized to develop procedures concerning disciplinary action to be taken for:

1. Initiation and hazing on the school grounds or at school-sponsored events;
2. Indulging in group functions that violate city laws or county ordinances, and Board policy.

Non-school clubs may become recognized school-sponsored clubs by conforming to the criteria for school clubs and societies stated earlier.

Adopted: 19 October 2016

