Student organizations are an extension of the academic curriculum and are intended to complement the basic instructional program.

The principal, in cooperation with the school’s leadership team, shall approve all clubs and organizations within the school. The director of schools shall be notified when a new club/organization is established.

The principal shall notify the parents or legal guardians of all clubs and organizations available to students by prominently displaying the information in the school’s annually distributed student handbook or equivalent that contains school policies and procedures and on the school’s website. The list shall include:

1. The names of the clubs and organizations, including any abbreviations or acronyms;
2. The mission and purpose of the clubs and organizations;
3. All financial requirements associated with membership in the club or organizations; and
4. Notification that no school shall permit a student to become a member or participate in any activities of a club or organization if the parent or legal guardian of the student has provided a written communication prohibiting the student from membership or participation. The written communication must be signed and dated by the parent or legal guardian.

One or more staff members will serve as faculty advisors of each activity and will attend all meetings. Each advisor will evaluate the activity and make recommendations concerning changes, continuance, or deletion from the school’s activity program.

An approved copy of the mission/purpose/aims, goals/objectives, and constitution for each organization will be kept on file in the principal’s office.

The director of schools shall approve all requirements imposed by clubs which have restricted membership.

The nature of any initiation shall be outlined and presented in writing to the club’s faculty advisor and the principal of the school for approval prior to the actual initiation. Hazing by students acting alone or with others is strictly prohibited. Any organization which permits an initiation to go beyond the scope of activities planned and previously approved will be suspended until reinstated by the director of schools.1

Sororities, fraternities, and all secret organizations are prohibited.

Legal Reference:
1. TCA 49-2-120; TCA 49-6-3401