

Under the Equal Access Act, enacted into law by Congress in 1990, schools receiving federal financial assistance and permitting noncurriculum related student groups to meet during noninstructional time, must give the same equal access rights to other religious, social, political or philosophical groups.

The Johnson City Central School District Board of Education therefore establishes the following criteria, which shall afford all student groups a fair opportunity to meet in limited open forum:

1. The meeting is voluntary and student initiated.
2. The school district and its employees shall not promote, lead, or participate in any meetings with student groups that are not sponsored by the school district.
3. The meeting does not interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities.
4. Nonschool persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.
5. An employee can be assigned to the meeting for custodial or security purposes. However, no employee shall be assigned to attend a meeting if the speech content is contrary to their beliefs.

The building principal shall give a copy of this policy, and thoroughly explain its provisions, to all student groups requesting use of the building for the purpose of conducting a limited open forum.

Date of Board Approval: June 13, 2006
Johnson City Central School District, Johnson City, New York