

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NO: **4375**

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PAGE:

CATEGORY: Instruction, Curriculum Design EFFECTIVE: 1-29-62

SUBJECT: Performing Groups, 7-12 REVISED: 9-06-2002

A. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1. To outline administrative procedures governing student performing groups, curricular and noncurricular, in secondary schools.

2. Related Procedures:

Eligibility for participation in cocurricular	
and extracurricular activities	4350
Field trips, domestic single-day	4585
Instructions for obtaining transportation	
for school-related activities	4586

B. LEGAL AND POLICY BASIS

- 1. **Reference:** Board policy: F-2000, F-2350, F-3500, F-3800, F-3820, H-5200, H-7100; Education Code Section 35330.
- 2. **Policy.** No organization of students composed largely of individuals under eighteen years of age shall meet or conduct any activity except under the immediate supervision of an adult approved by principal or designee.

C. GENERAL

1. **Originating Office.** Suggestions or questions concerning this procedure should be directed to the Visual and Performing Arts Department, Curriculum and Instruction Division, Institute for Learning.

2. **Performing Groups**

- a. Curricular performing groups will be defined as groups that prepare performance material as a part of a VAPA or elective course defined by the district or site-adopted course of study.
- b. **Noncurricular performing groups** are groups that are not part of a VAPA or elective course defined by the district or site-adopted course of study.

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3. Function of Groups

a. **Curriculum performing groups** such as, but not limited to, Advanced Choral Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, and Advanced Band, perform as an application and extension of standards-based instruction.

- b. **Noncurricular performing groups** such as, but not limited to, drill teams, dance teams, and guard units, are established primarily for the benefit of participating students and as a means of self-expression for the students.
- 4. **Public Events Approved for Participation.** Marching or performing units may, with permission of principal, participate in public events provided such events fall into one or more of the following classifications and are not covered by limitations listed in C.5.:
 - a. **Events sponsored by schools**. Educational events for which schools in San Diego Unified School District serve as hosts shall have priority.
 - b. **Community functions** organized in the interest of schools, such as those originated by Parent-Teacher Association.
 - c. **Noncommercial civic occasions** of community, city, state, or national interest of sufficient breadth to enlist general sympathy and cooperation.
 - d. **Events primarily patriotic in nature**, such as Veterans Day.
 - e. **Charity benefit activities** (such as a charity ball game) provided such activity has been specifically approved in advance by instructional leader.
 - f. **Programs sponsored by established character-building agencies,** such as churches, service clubs, and lodges.
 - g. **Professional sports events** approved by principal and instructional leader.

5. Limitations

a. **In junior high/middle schools**. No majorettes, song or cheer leaders, batontwirling or drill-team units. The only uniformed marching unit shall be bands, all of whose members shall be participating musicians.

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b. Public events in which performing groups may not participate

(1) Events for advertising any commercial project or product.

- (2) Events for furtherance of any politically partisan interest, including campaign rallies for candidates running for offices.
- (3) Events primarily for furtherance of any sectarian concern.
- (4) Events that cause an undue amount of interference with the regular school program or that cause an excessive amount of absence due to rehearsal or preparation.
- (5) Events (other than those sponsored by schools) that necessitate special construction of floats or other equipment requiring school materials and the time of school employees and students.
- (6) Any occasion unsuitable for student participation.

c. Area limitations

- (1) Schools ordinarily will limit participation to approved public events within their own local communities.
- (2) An individual or organization requesting services of marching or performing units from more than one school for performances *outside* the city must obtain permission from principal of each school involved and from instructional leader and the Deputy Chancellor, Institute for Learning.

d. Time and frequency limitations for public appearances away from school

- (1) **Large vocal and instrumental groups**: ten performances per semester, not to exceed a maximum of one per week.
- (2) Small vocal and instrumental ensembles (24 students or smaller): twenty performances per semester, not to exceed a maximum of two per week.
- (3) Marching or drill units: at the discretion of principal

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(4) **Large groups** should *not* be sent out on programs less than fifteen minutes long.

e. Saturday, Sunday, or holiday participation

- (1) With the exception of JROTC Brigade Reviews, student participation on Saturdays, Sundays, or holidays cannot be required; there shall be no penalties for students who do not participate.
- (2) To avoid interference with church attendance, student participation on Sundays shall not be requested prior to 1:30 p.m.
- (3) Written notice of weekend or holiday activities should be sent to parents/guardians for approval or disapproval of a student's participation.

f. Religious institution limitations

- (1) Religious institution program appearances by large groups are permitted only on a concert basis; group participation in a religious institution service is not permitted.
- (2) Appearances at Sunday morning religious institution services shall not be approved.
- (3) Selections presented in religious institution programs should be appropriate to the place and the occasion.

g. Health and welfare limitations

- (1) Weather conditions constituting health hazards (excessively hot, cold, or rainy) provide ample justification for withdrawal from parade participation.
- (2) Time and distance requirements should be considered. Length of march should be limited to three miles; total time (including formation and marching) should be limited to a three-hour maximum.

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h. **Costs of uniforms limitations.** A cost limit for uniforms shall be set by the principal as appropriate to the site. In no case should uniform costs exceed \$400.00, including material, labor, shoes, hats, and any other accessories. A student shall not be required to bear the cost of uniform as a requirement to participate in any student performing group.

6. **Exceptions**. Requests for appearances not within established limits should be referred to principal and to instructional leader.

7. **Performance Rules**

- a. **Drill teams**. Team performances will be as a single unit (e.g., flag corps, baton corps, and drum corps) *without* specialty tumbling or acrobatic groups.
 - (1) Drill teams, dance teams, and/or guard units may perform with a band for special occasions when requested by band director and approved by team sponsors.
- b. **Cheer and song leaders**. Approved standards of decorum shall be observed at all times.
- c. **Mascots**. Only members of the student body shall serve as mascots; animals are not permitted.

8. Noncurricular Performing Group Instruction

- a. Noncurricular performing groups shall be given some instructions by qualified persons approved by principal.
- b. Teachers should be assigned noncurricular performing group responsibilities on the basis of one teacher for each 40 students or major fraction thereof.

9. Scheduling of Performances

- a. **Notification.** Adequate notification must be received. For large groups, at least three weeks' advance notice is required to allow for preparation; for small groups, at least one week's advance notice is required.
- b. **Soloists**. Appearances of soloists should be regulated by parents/guardians, students, and private teachers; conflict with school commitments should be avoided.

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D. IMPLEMENTATION

E. FORMS AND AUXILIARY REFERENCES

F. REPORTS AND RECORDS

G. APPROVED BY

Chief of Staff, Terrance L. Smith

For the Superintendent of Public Education