

## Club Policy

Lake Norman Charter (LNC) believes that the goals and objectives of the school are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences that take place both in and outside of the classroom. To achieve this goal, the school encourages students to form clubs and activities that will enhance their educational experience. To assist students in furthering this goal, the school shall offer two (2) types of clubs and activities: extra-curricular clubs and interscholastic activities. LNC defines extra-curricular clubs and interscholastic activities as activities that are conducted on or off school premises under the supervision and guidance of a LNC staff advisor.

LNC strives to maintain an extra-curricular club and interscholastic activities program sufficiently varied to meet the wide range of vocational, recreational, social, and cultural needs and interests of the students. This policy sets forth the criteria LNC uses to differentiate a School Affiliated (defined herein) extra-curricular club and interscholastic activity from that of a Non-School Affiliated (defined herein) club or activity. Students shall be informed of all School Affiliated extra-curricular clubs and interscholastic activities, as well as Non-School Affiliated student clubs and activities available to them, and of the eligibility standards established for participation in these clubs and activities. School affiliated activities shall be available to all students who elect to participate and meet eligibility standards.

### Establishing a School Affiliated Extra-Curricular Club or Interscholastic Activity

Extra-curricular clubs and interscholastic activities that are deemed by the respective building principal to meet the requirements in subsections A and B below shall be deemed school-affiliated (“School Affiliated”).:

#### A. Extra-curricular Clubs

The school may establish extra-curricular student clubs associated with national organizations that support K-12 education efforts such as the National Honor Society, Student Council, Interact, Key Club, curriculum specific honor societies, as well as, clubs that are critical to LNC’s Mission such as Senior Class Council, Drama Club, Knight Riders, etc. To be School Affiliated, these clubs must use students' knowledge of curriculum to develop and expand their critical thinking, athletic ability, leadership ability, post-secondary educational, and/or employability skills. The student participants must meet all of the eligibility criteria and abide by the principles and practices established by the club, team, or the organization. In order to be affiliated by the school, student clubs and their national organizations shall not show an allegiance to or preference for or against an individual's race, age, national origin, gender, gender orientation, religion, creed, disability, or social economic status. Students who participate in School Affiliated extra-curricular clubs are expected to abide by the

applicable extra-curricular policies and guidelines set forth in the Student Handbook and on the LNC website.

#### B. Interscholastic Activities

The school may establish interscholastic activities which must fall under the guidance and direction of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSSA) to be considered affiliated by the school. Each participating student must complete a required yearly physical, concussion paperwork, NCHSAA eligibility guidelines and abide by the policies and guidelines that are set forth in the Student Handbook and on the LNC website. In the event that the interscholastic athletic activity requires a limited number of players, the coach or other leader of the particular activity has the flexibility to allow or terminate a student's participation based on fitness, ability, or other similar criteria which is not prohibited under federal law.

#### Administration

School affiliated extra-curricular clubs and interscholastic activities shall require a fiscal account to be established that must comply with the school's financial and bookkeeping controls established by the Director of Business Services. Each staff advisor assigned to an extra-curricular club or interscholastic activity shall provide a periodic update to the Director of Business Services on the fiscal status of the club and their activities.

School affiliated extra-curricular clubs and interscholastic activities may receive funding from the school for their meetings, activities, and competitions, but such funding is not guaranteed.

#### Non-School Affiliated Clubs and Activities

Non-school affiliated extra-curricular clubs or activities are those that fail to meet the criteria listed in subsections A and B above ("Non-School Affiliated). These clubs or activities might include, but are not limited to, clubs and activities related to race, ethnicity, gender, gender orientation, or religion as well as athletic clubs for non-NCHSAA sports. For supervision reasons, Non-School Affiliated student clubs still require that a LNC staff member be willing to attend and supervise club meetings or activity in a custodial capacity.

The school may allow Non-School Affiliated student clubs or activities during non-instructional time. These clubs and activities may only use the name of the school when it is required or necessary to distinguish it from other such clubs in relation to competitions or other types of multi-participant events. The use of the school name is not intended to show the club falls under the control, supervision, direction, guidance, or sponsorship of the school.

The school may, in its sole discretion, allow Non-School Affiliated student clubs or activities to use LNC facilities for meetings.

School employees or agents of the school may participate in Non-School Affiliated clubs or activities, but may only do so before or after their normal working hours. At no time shall employees or agents of the school who participate in a Non-School Affiliated student club indicate or imply to anyone that their participation in a club or activity shows that the club or their participation with the club is affiliated with the school.

### Forming Clubs

All proposed clubs should provide the respective building principal with the following information using the LNC Club Proposal form prior to the start of student participation:

- A. purpose and rationale for the club or activity
- B. intended outcomes for students
- C. participation requirements
- D. plan of operation
- E. costs to participate and/or fund raising activities anticipated
- F. persons in charge
- G. assure that the club will adhere to all applicable laws and the policies of LNC, including those policies set forth in the Student and Staff Handbooks.

The building principal will evaluate each request for a club or activity and list it as “School Affiliated” or “Non-School Affiliated.” Each building principal shall maintain a list of all clubs and activities meeting at their school on LNC’s website.

### Operating Guidelines for Clubs and Activities

The operating procedures for all School Affiliated extra-curricular clubs and interscholastic activities should ensure that:

- A. students participate in ways that do not interfere with their academic programs;
- B. adhere to LNC’s mission and core values
- C. the safety and welfare of the student are adequately safeguarded;
- D. all activities have proper staff planning, direction, and supervision;
- E. staff members and students are encouraged, but not required, to attend activities involving student performances;
- F. each activity is assessed continuously, relative to its stated purpose and goals;
- G. building facilities and equipment are being used safely and as intended, and being maintained in proper condition.

For Non-School Affiliated, the school will not:

- A. assume any responsibility for the planning, conducting, or evaluating such activities;
- B. provide any funds or other resources;

- C. allow any member of the school's staff to assist in the planning, conduct, or evaluation of such an activity during the hours s/he is functioning as a member of the staff.

#### Club Activity Communication

The school may allow any club the use of school communications media (e.g., Schoology posts, public address announcements, etc.) to inform the student body of clubs and activities or their events. Any request for Non-School Affiliated club communication must, prior to distribution, be submitted to the respective building principal for review and approval or disapproval. Club communications may invite, but not require or specifically request, other students to participate in a club or interscholastic activity or their events. School affiliated clubs may not co-sponsor activities or events with Non-School Affiliated clubs. Distribution of any printed materials by Non-School Affiliated clubs (e.g., pamphlets, informational materials, etc.) also must, prior to distribution, be submitted to the building principal for review and approval or disapproval.

The superintendent shall develop and update, as needed, administrative procedures to implement this policy.