

SECTION 809

## TITLE: EQUAL ACCESS

## Neshaminy School District

1		POLICY 809 – EQUAL ACCESS	1
2	I. GENERAL	TOLICT 607 - LOOME ACCESS	2
2 3 4 5 6 7		A. Equal access legislation (Equal Access Act), passed by Congress and signed into law on August 1, 1984, applies only to secondary schools that receive federal financial assistance and provide a "limited open forum."	2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13		B. It is unlawful, where such a form exists, to deny equal access or a fair opportunity to, or to discriminate against, any students who wish to conduct a meeting with the limited open forum on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings.	8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	II. DEFINITIONS	<ul> <li>A. <u>A "limited open forum"</u> exists whenever a secondary school grants an offering to or an opportunity for one or more non-curriculum related student groups to meet on school premises during non instructional time.</li> <li>B. <u>"Non-instructional time"</u> begins at the end of the student school day and is limited to one hour.</li> </ul>	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22
<ul> <li>23</li> <li>24</li> <li>25</li> <li>26</li> <li>27</li> <li>28</li> <li>29</li> <li>30</li> <li>31</li> <li>32</li> <li>33</li> <li>34</li> </ul>	FOR REQUESTS UNDER EQUAL ACCESS	<ul> <li>A. The meeting must be student initiated and open to voluntary participation of any student enrolled in the school.</li> <li>B. The meeting cannot be sponsored by the school or its agents.</li> <li>C. The meeting cannot materially or substantially interfere with the school's educational activities or contain or promote activities which are unlawful.</li> </ul>	23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34

1 2 3 4		Policy #809 (Continued) D. Non-school persons cannot direct, conduct or control or regularly attend the activities initiated by the student group.	1 2 3 4
5 6	IV.SCHEDULING OF FACILITIES		5 6
7 8		A. Advance written notice of at least 30 days is required.	7 8
8 9 10 11		B. Requests are to be made to the principal ensuring that the above criteria are met.	8 9 10 11
12 13		C. Use is limited to the time school is in session and only during non- instructional time as defined above.	12 13
14 15 16		D. This policy applies only to school premises where students in grades 7 through 12 are instructed.	14 15 16
17 18 19		E. Meetings shall not interfere with scheduled school sponsored activities or activities previously scheduled.	17 18 19
20 21 22	V. RESTRICTION OF ACTIVITIES		20 21 22
23 24 25	CONDUCTED	A. A school administrator or designee may be assigned to monitor the activity and to maintain order and prevent disorderly conduct.	23 24 25
26 27 28		B. The collection of money is prohibited or the acceptance of any contributions at such a meeting.	26 27 28
29 30 31 32		C. Non-school persons or groups are prohibited from participating in the "limited open forum" unless prior written approval is received from the principal.	29 30 31 32
33 34		D. Use of facilities shall be at no cost to the School District.	33 34

2       Image: Constraint of the sector of the	1		Policy # 809 (Continued)	1
3       leading or participating in such meetings or requiring any student to       3         4       participate in any such meetings.       4         5       VI. VIOLATIONS       6         7       A. Violation of the above rules may result in a suspension of the privilege.       7         8       9       9         10       10       10         11       11       12         13       14       14         14       14       13         15       15       15         16       17       15         17       18       14         18       19       19         20       17       19         21       22       23         22       15       15         23       15       16         24       15       16         25       15       16         26       Adopted: 04-30-85       24         27       Reviewed: 10/30/03       25         28       15       25         30       14       24         29       20       21         23       24       25      <	2		E. During working hours, school employees are prohibited from promoting	2
4       participate in any such meetings.       4         5       VI. VIOLATIONS       5         7       A. Violation of the above rules may result in a suspension of the privilege.       7         8       9       10         10       11       10         11       12       12         13       14       14         15       16       16         17       18       14         19       20       20         21       22       23         24       JEF;h       14         25       Adopted: 04-30-85       25         7       Keviewed: 10/30/03       27         29       30       30         31       33       33	3		leading or participating in such meetings or requiring any student to	3
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