

CHAPTER 5.00 - STUDENTS

5.32 - Club Initiation Ceremony/Hazing Activities

POLICY:

- (1) Any club or organization of a school which engages in an initiation ceremony of its members shall prepare and submit its program of initiation exercises to the faculty sponsor of the club or organization for review by the principal of the school. No initiation ceremony may be used in any school without the written approval of the principal.
- (2) Initiation activities shall not be degrading to an individual or involve hazing activities. All initiation activities shall reflect the honor of the organization.

Hazing is defined as any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operating under the sanction of a High School. Hazing includes, but is not limited to: pressuring or coercing the student into violating State or Federal laws; any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, exposure to the elements, forced consummation of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the student; mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment, or other forced activity that could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the student.

- (3) According to Florida Statute, committing an act of hazing which creates a substantial risk of physical injury or death is a first degree misdemeanor. The penalty increases to a third degree felony if the act of hazing results in serious bodily injury or death.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1001.41 (2), 1001.42 (17), F.S.

LAWS IMPLEMENTED: 1006.07 (6), F.S.

HISTORY: Adopted: 06/17/97
Revision Date(s): 10/16/01, 12/03/02, 09/06/05
Formerly: