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Having a school-employed sponsor is often required by schools, who allow a club to meet on the premises. Volunteers from the public, who serve the students as club organizers, should understand and encouraged this practice. Their role in protecting the school is essential for the club to have access to its public facilities. They ensure the club member's conduct is in keeping with normal school policy. It is important for school accountability that the club organizer be accessible in this regard. This offers assurance to the school and its administrators that the clubs are operating within school policy and the law. However, the school employee should not entangle with the religious aspects of the club. Entanglement means not restricting or promoting club activities that do not breach school conduct policy. For example, the school sponsor cannot use school E-Mail service or paid time to aid or conduct club activities.

More Specific Student Rights:

Students may request to form a Kids For Christ Club at their local school.

Students may wear Kids for Christ Club T-Shirts during school if students of other clubs are allowed to wear club shirts.

Students may invite students not enrolled to join Kids for Christ during non-instructional free time.

Students may offer Kids for Christ Club materials to non-club students.

Students may read personal religious material and material received, through their membership, in Kids for Christ at school. This can happen during time set apart for non-curricular material during non-instructional free periods.

Students may utilize biblical Christian resources if it fulfills the requirements for literary, historical, scientific or any other academic discipline for assignments. This includes public presentations to classmates. Faculty may not discriminate against students who choose to cite religious materials that offer facts pertaining to an assignment solely because the source may be religious.

Students may freely discourse their personal beliefs during non-instructional free time before other students.

Students have the right to entreat the favor of God upon their school community in an act known as public prayer.

Students have the right to offer respect, honor to all school personnel and fellow students, and do their best to enhance the atmosphere for learning in their school through the employment of their personal faith in Jesus Christ.

Resources:

Website: KidsforChristClubs.Com

MAILING:

KIDS FOR CHRIST

350 Hwy 165

Iowa, LA. 70647

In Care Of:

Church of The Promise

(337) 582-2090

May it be known:

The author of the information contained in this publication does not in any way attempt to practice law but has simply written what was known to be established as lawful practice (with the advice of legal counsel) at the time of this publication on this 7th day of May in the year of our Lord 2015.

The following Cases are cited as legal reference:

Good News Club v. Milford Central School District, the **United States Supreme Court** ruled that a **public school which allows use of its facilities to secular groups may not discriminate against religious groups.**

The **American Center for Law and Justice (A.C.L.J.)** has a specific Publication that is useful for helping School administrators know what young citizens who attend public school can do.
<http://kidsforchristclubs.weebly.com/uploads/5/7/7/8/8/57886709/student-bible-clubs-and-religious-use-of-school-facilities-aclj.pdf>

Student Rights

It's What You CAN Do!



God has not given us
a spirit of timidity (*that's Fear*), but
He has given us a Spirit of
Love, Power &
SELF-DISCIPLINE

-2 Timothy 1:7



What School Faculty & Staff

Can Do?

Kids for Christ is a religious club. Being so will require extra caution on the part of any school employee who may serve as the club overseer on behalf of the school. Our students have a right to express their religious views. Publicly funded schools cannot prohibit such activity that is the free exercise of religion under the United States Constitution. Other students have the right not to be involved in religious activity. All school employees need to observe and protect all rights. There is an accepted separation between church and state, secular and sacred in a public setting. This provision is in the 1st amendment of our constitution.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;"

Couple this with the first amendment's guarantee for every citizen's freedom of speech.

"or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

There in the 1st amendment is the constitutional foundation all citizens have. That grants them the right to hold Christian clubs upon government school campuses. Students do not lose those rights upon attending a publicly funded, local government school.

Both congress and the courts, through case rulings, attempted to add clarity to this constitutionally legal position.

School employees, who serve the school, must maintain the rights of all students. Students and their families have the right to freely participate or abstain from religious activity. School sponsors or any school employees who coerce or discourage Student participation in the clubs violate that right. Either action would likely be considered an entanglement and breach of the 1st amendment. All school personnel must remain neutral for their employer.

Clear Rules For School Staff

The following rules from an administrative memo by Calcasieu Parish School campuses may be a useful example for other school systems.

"As a result of this policy review, please inform your staff and public sponsor of the bulleted items and ensure the following items are not taking place.

- 1. Public school employees may not distribute bibles.*
- 2. Public school employees may not wear Bible Club t-shirts on school premises during school hours.*
- 3. Public school employees may not lead or take an active participation role in the club activities.*
- 4. Each school that has a religious club must assign one employee to attend all club meetings to ensure school property is not damaged during this non-school sponsored club meeting. School employees must serve as "gate keepers" of the facility, not participants of the organization.*
- 5. Public school employees may not promote the club.*
- 6. Public school employees may not instruct club officers on how to lead club meetings.*
- 7. Public school employees cannot promote the club's values during those meetings, at school, or during school hours.*
- 8. Public school employees cannot pressure students into joining any type of club."*

Student Rights

School employees also may not prohibit or discourage student participation in Kids for Christ Clubs.

The public school cannot discriminate against a Christian club solely because it is religious. All clubs & activities should have access given equally without discrimination.

General Student Body:

All students may receive an invitation to attend informational meetings annually at the beginning of the Club. These special meetings are for all students interested in joining the club. During these meetings, the students are informed of the nature and purpose of the club. They will be given parental permission slips to return to the school. The school will maintain these permission slips as evidence of the student's parental consent and enrollment in the club.

School Bookkeeping:

If the school prefers to oversee the bookkeeping of other clubs, it may also require the same from Kids for Christ Clubs. Some schools do not require nor offer this service to any of its clubs. They choose to defer to each club handling its funds. If the school does not offer club bookkeeping accounts to other clubs meeting on a school campus; then it cannot offer an account to a Kids for Christ club.

Publicity

Schools can announce times and events. School announcements are the same as all other clubs publicizing the club times and events that serve the students of the school.

School Sponsors

We appreciate the position School Sponsors have as a employee of the school. Their function is the school overseer of the club. They protect the rights, the interest and the safety of all students and the public confidence in the school to maintain a neutral environment for all public citizens.

A sponsor cannot endorse the club. A sponsor must function as the liaison between the club and the school. They protect the school property, the student and the community.