



Almadina Language Charter Academy Policy Manual

POLICY # 17 STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

POLICY

Almadina Language Charter Academy (ALCA) will provide students with the opportunity and support to form school-based clubs or organizations that promote equality and non-discrimination with respect to, without limitation, race, religious belief, colour, gender, gender identity, gender expression, physical disability, mental disability, family status or sexual orientation.

If one or more students attending a school operated by the board request a staff member employed by the board for support to establish a voluntary student organization, or to lead an activity intended to promote a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging, the principal of the school shall:

- (a) immediately grant permission for the establishment of the student organization or the holding of the activity at the school;
- (b) within a reasonable time from the date that the principal receives the request designate a staff member to serve as the staff liaison to facilitate the establishment, and the ongoing operation, of the student organization or to assist in organizing the activity; and
- (c) the students may select a respectful and inclusive name for the organization or activity, including a name that designates a sexual orientation - i.e., GSA - after consulting with the principal.

The principal shall not prohibit or discourage students from choosing a name that designates a sexual orientation - i.e., GSA. The principal shall immediately inform the board and the Minister if no staff member is available to serve as a staff liaison referred to in subsection (1), and if so informed, the Minister shall appoint a responsible adult to work with the requesting students in organizing the activity or to facilitate the establishment, and the ongoing operation, of the student organization at the school. (6) The principal is responsible for ensuring that notification, if any, respecting a voluntary student organization or an activity referred to in subsection (1) is limited to the fact of the establishment of the organization or the holding of the activity

BACKGROUND

ALCA is committed to offering a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment for students, in keeping with ALCA's proactive approach to kindness and character education. Memberships in clubs and organizations can develop skills and character, provide encouragement, and foster positive thinking and mutual acceptance. Our goal is to have students gain an

understanding of personal wellness that will allow them to achieve a healthy balance throughout their life

Legal Reference: Alberta School Act s 16.1(1), (3), (3.1), (4) and (6)
Alberta Human Rights Act
Bill 24 – An Act to Protect Gay-Straight
Alliances Teaching Profession Act
Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Cross Reference: FOIP (Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act) legislation 39 (4)

Date of Approval: November 16, 2017

Date of Review: May 24, 2018

For Annual Review

