

## STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Students shall enjoy the constitutional right of freedom of expression. They shall have the right to express their views in speech, writing, or through any other medium or form, limited solely by those restrictions imposed on all citizens generally and those specifically applicable to children and youth in a school setting.

The Board of Education encourages student publications not only because they offer an educational activity through which students gain experience in reporting, writing, editing, and understanding responsible journalism, but also because they provide an opportunity for students to express their views and a means of communicating both within and beyond the school community.

The Building Principal of each secondary school, in consultation with the student government, shall appoint a committee of students, faculty and administrators to establish guidelines for student publications. All student publications will comply with the rules for responsible journalism. The Board encourages the dissemination of diverse viewpoints and the discussion of all political, social and cultural issues. However, libelous statements, unfounded charges and accusations, obscenity, false statements, materials advocating racial or religious prejudice, hatred, violence, the breaking of laws and school policies and/or regulations, or materials designed to disrupt the educational process will not be permitted. Expressions of personal opinion must be clearly identified as such, and bear the name of the author. Opportunity for the expression of opinions differing from those of the student publishers must be provided.

In addition, student newspapers and/or publications which are paid for by the school district and/or produced under the direction of a teacher as part of the school curriculum are not considered a public forum. In such cases, the Board reserves the right to edit or delete such student speech which it feels is inconsistent with the district's basic educational mission.

### *Unofficial Student Publications*

Unofficial student publications, questionnaires, leaflets and other literature may be distributed by currently enrolled students at specified locations on or within school property and at times designated by the Principal or the administrator in charge of the building.

The Building Principal and a student-faculty-administration committee may establish guidelines governing distribution. A copy of any such material must be left with the Principal within a reasonable period of time prior to distribution for approval by the Principal.

The contents of such publications are subject only to the same provisions as those stated above for the student press.

The Principal or the designated administrator shall designate certain areas to be used for bulletins, posters of student organizations and student campaign posters. Other areas shall be designated for notices relating to out-of-school activities or matters of general interest to students which a student or student group wishes to post. The posting of student campaign posters shall be governed by rules adopted by individual schools and shall not be covered by this policy.

All posted material shall contain identification of the student or student group posting the material. All posted material shall also be officially dated before posting. The student or student group posting the material is responsible for removing the material after a reasonable period of time, in order to ensure full access for other material.

The Superintendent shall establish guidelines that are in keeping with the above and shall provide for the review of the content of all student publications prior to their distribution.

Ref: *Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier*, 484 US 260, 108 S Ct 562 (1988)  
*Bethel School District v. Fraser*, 478 US 675 (1986)  
*Tinker v. DesMoines Independent Community School Dist.*, 393 US 503, (1969)  
*Thomas v. Board of Education, Granville Central School Dist.*, 607 F 2d 1043 (1979)  
*Trachtman v. Anker, et al.*, 563 F 2d 512 (1977)  
*Eisner v. Stamford Board of Education*, 314 F Supp 832, modf'd. 440 F2d 803 (1971)  
*Frasca v. Andrew et al.*, 463 F Supp 1043 (1979)  
*Matter of Beil and Scariati*, 26 EDR 109(1986)

Note: Prior policy, Policy Manual, IGDB, revised

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