

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.

Faculty advisors must be appointed and supervise all student publications. Faculty supervisors must review all publications prior to distribution for good taste, as well as journalistic appropriateness.

All student publications both school sponsored and non-school sponsored publications which are sought to be disseminated through the school district will comply with the rules for responsible journalism. Libelous statements, unfounded charges and accusations, obscenity, false statements, materials advocating racial or religious prejudice, hatred, violence, the breaking of laws and school policies, 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 of pre-publication review of school sponsored publications to edit or delete such student speech which it feels is inconsistent with the district's basic educational mission.

Distribution of Literature

Students have a right to distribute literature on school grounds and in school buildings provided such distribution does not interfere with or disrupt the educational process. No literature may be distributed unless a copy is submitted and approved in advance to the Superintendent of Schools or designee. The distribution of non-school sponsored publications may be halted by the principal for one of the reasons set forth above.

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.

The Board expressly reserves the right to regulate the time, place and manner of distribution of both school sponsored publications and speech and non-school sponsored publications and speech which is disseminated in or through the schools.

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)

Adoption date: June 4, 2002

Effective: July 1, 2002