

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Board recognizes creative student expression as an educational benefit of the school experience. It encourages freedom of comment, both oral and written, in a school setting with a degree of order in which proper learning can take place.

One medium of expression is student journalism. Some student publications, such as annual yearbooks, school newspapers and school TV productions, may be educational devices developed as part of the curriculum to benefit primarily those who compile, edit and publish them. Faculty advisors will be assigned to guide students engaged in these activities. Any commercial advertisements in such publications will conform to administrative regulations.

The rights of freedom of expression and equal protection of the law will be observed in regard to student publications and distribution of materials, either school-sponsored or non-school-sponsored. The observance of these rights must be balanced against the duty of educating students in an orderly manner to protect the rights of all. Therefore, students may be required to submit publications or other literature for approval prior to distribution.

The principal, or designee, may deny approval of the content or the distribution of any literature, which s/he reasonably determines:

1. Would cause a substantial disruption or interference with school activities
2. Is patently offensive to a substantial portion of the school community due to the depiction or description of sexual conduct, violence or morbidity, or the use of language in such literature which is inappropriate for the environment as judged by the standards of the school community, or is otherwise detrimental to the welfare of the members of that community
3. Is, or tends to be, injurious of the reputation of any persons, and is false, misleading, or unreasonably critical
4. Would substantially interfere with the rights of other persons

Adopted: June 30, 1981

Reviewed: February 25, 2003