

## Instruction

## Controversial Issues - Student Freedom of Expression

1. School-Sponsored Publications

- a) School newspapers, yearbooks, literary magazines and similar publications are encouraged as part of the school curriculum. These publications shall reflect the judgment of the student editors and the guidance of the advisor. School newspapers must provide the chance for students to express a variety of viewpoints and opinions.

2. Non-School-Sponsored Publications

Publications produced by school district students without school sponsorship, or handbills, may be distributed and/or sold within the school according to the following procedure.

- a) They must include the name of the sponsoring organization and/or individual.
- b) A time and place for the distribution must be set cooperatively with the principal.
- c) A copy must be given to the principal at least 24 hours before its distribution.
- d) If the principal finds the publication (1) contains libelous or obscene language, (2) may incite (lead) persons to illegal acts, (3) is insulting to any group or individual, or (4) he/she can reasonably forecast that its distribution to the students will greatly disrupt or materially interfere with school procedures or intrude into school affairs or the lives of others, the principal shall notify the sponsors of the publication that its distribution may not be started, or must stop. The principal shall state the reason for his/her decisions.
- e) The publication shall contain this phrase: "The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the school district or its personnel."

Legal Reference: Student Code of Rights and Responsibilities

Policy adopted: April 11, 1977

Policy revised: November 20, 1995

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