

SCHOOL SPONSORED STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Board of Education encourages and permits the preparation of school-sponsored publications under staff direction in order to provide opportunities to teach writing, editing, and journalistic skills and so that students may learn the rights and responsibilities of the press in a free society.

Faculty advisors shall supervise student publications to ensure that publications conform to the standards established in this policy.

Authors, contributors and editors shall fulfill the following responsibilities:

1. Write and revise submissions in conformance with good journalistic writing style and using correct grammar and punctuation.
2. Obtain all necessary permissions and provide appropriate attribution for materials derived from other sources.
3. Sign articles expressing individual editorial opinions, and identify the editorial board for editorials that express the editorial opinion of a publication.
4. Check facts and verify quotes.
5. Depict opposing points of view responsibly and provide fair opportunities for comment and rebuttal when controversial subjects are addressed.
6. Refrain from publishing content that is inappropriate for a school-sponsored publication.
7. Refrain from endorsing political candidates or positions on ballot propositions.

The following types of content are specifically prohibited in school-sponsored publications:

- a) slurs and similarly offensive terms or comments regarding an individual's race, color, national origin, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, or disability;
 - b) speech or images that violate district policies prohibiting discrimination, bullying or harassment;
 - c) threats of violence against an individual or group;
 - d) speech or images that invade another person's privacy;
 - (e) speech or images that endanger the health or safety of another person;
 - (f) speech or images that libels, in the absence of privilege, any person or persons;
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(g) speech or images that advocate the use by minors or advertises the availability of any substance or material that is illegal for minors, or that is designed specifically to facilitate the use of such substances and materials (e.g. drug paraphernalia);

(h) obscenity or pervasively vulgar or lewd material deemed to be harmful to impressionable students;

(i) speech or images that incite the violation of school rules or that incites violence or the violation of law at school, on school grounds, or in connection with a school activity; and

(j) speech or images that cause, or in school officials' reasonable judgment appear likely to cause, a substantial disruption to school or district operations or programs.

Adoption Date:	October 3, 1988
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