

## **Students**

### Restrictions on Publications; Elementary Schools

#### School – Sponsored Publications and Web Sites

School-sponsored publications productions and web sites are part of the curriculum and are not a public forum for general student use. School authorities may edit or delete material that is inconsistent with the District's educational mission.

All school-sponsored communications shall comply with the ethics and rules of responsible journalism. Text that is libelous, obscene, vulgar, lewd, invades the privacy of others, conflicts with the basic educational mission of the school, is socially inappropriate, is inappropriate due to the maturity of the students, or is materially disruptive to the educational process will not be tolerated.

The author's name will accompany personal opinions and editorial statements. An opportunity for the expression of differing opinions from those published/produced will be provided within the same media.

#### Non-School-Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed on Campus

For the purposes of this section and the following section, a publication includes, without limitation: (1) written or electronic print material, and (2) audio-visual material, on any medium including electromagnetic media (e.g. images, MP3 files, flash memory, etc.), or combinations of these whether offline (e.g. a printed book, CD-ROM, etc.) or online (e.g. any website, social networking site, database for information retrieval, etc.)

Creating, distributing, and/or accessing non-school sponsored publications shall occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the publication is endorsed by the school district.

Students are prohibited from creating, accessing, and/or distributing at school any publication:

1. that will cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities
2. that violates the right of others, including but not limited to material that is libelous, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
3. that is socially inappropriate die to maturity level of the students, including but not limited to material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, or contains indecent and vulgar language, or sexting;
4. that is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use;
5. that is distributed in kindergarten through eighth grade, and is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes. Nothing herein shall be interpreted to prevent the inclusion of material from outside sources or the citation to such sources as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students.

Accessing or distributing on campus includes accessing or distributing on school property or at school-related activities. A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for (1) accessing or distribution forbidden material, or (2) for writing, creating, or publishing such material intending for it to be accessed or distributed at school.

Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed Off Campus

A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for creating and/or distributing a publication that causes substantial disruption to school operations or interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

LEGAL REF.: Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier, 108 S.Ct. 562 (1988).  
Hedges v. Wauconda Community Unit School Dist. No. 118, 9 F.3d 1295  
(7th Cir. 1993)  
Tinker V. Des Moines Indep. Comty. Sch. Dist., 89 S.Ct. 733 (1969)

CROSS REF.: 6.235, 7.180, 8.25

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