



POLICY 220 -- STUDENT EXPRESSION

1. Purpose

The Board respects the right of students to express themselves in word or symbol and to distribute materials as a part of that expression but recognizes that the exercise of that right must be limited by the need to maintain an orderly school environment and to protect the rights of all members of the school community.

2. Authority

The Board reserves the right to designate and prohibit manifestations of student expression which are not protected by the right of free expression because they violate the rights of others. Such expressions are those which:

- > libel any specific person or persons;
- > seek to establish the supremacy of a particular religious denomination, sect, or point of view;
- > advocate the use or advertise the availability of any substance or material which may reasonably be believed to constitute a direct and substantial danger to the health of students;
- > are obscene or contain material otherwise deemed to be harmful to impressionable students who may receive them;
- > incite violence, advocate the use of force, or urge the violation of law or school regulations; and
- > solicit funds for non-school organizations or institutions when such solicitations have not been approved by the Board.

The Board will require that students who wish to distribute materials submit them for prior review. Where the reviewer cannot show within two school days that the materials are unprotected, such material may be distributed. Appeal from prior review will be permitted to the Superintendent and the Board in accordance with district rules.

The Board will require that distribution of printed materials take place only at the places and during the times set forth in the rules and regulations of this district in order that such distribution not interfere with the orderly operation of the schools.

3. Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent will develop rules and regulations for the distribution of printed material which will include:

POLICY 220 – STUDENT EXPRESSION (continued)

- > procedures for the prior review of all material to be distributed. Such procedures will designate a reviewer who will bear the burden of showing the material to be unprotected; require that the time consumed by the review process not be so excessive as to constitute a prohibition in itself; and delineate an appeal process.
- > designation of the places and times material may be distributed.
- > the requirement that students who distribute printed materials will be responsible for clearing any litter that results from their activity.
- > disciplinary action for those students who distribute printed materials in contravention of this policy and the rules of this district or who continue the manifestation of an unprotected expression after a person in authority orders that they desist.