



The Board bears the responsibility for district financed student publications. The Board believes that these publications must exhibit high standards of student journalism and reflect accurately and fairly the institutions and programs represented. The primary function of a student publication is to provide learning in journalistic skills and publications practices. The Board also believes that the freedom of expression granted to adults should be guaranteed to students as people governed by the U.S. Constitution and the Oregon Constitution. Therefore, the Board has established the following guidelines and responsibilities for the staff and students involved:

THE ADVISOR

Student publications are produced under direct supervision of the student editors and a faculty advisor. Close contact must be maintained by the advisor to judge quality of work being done by each student and guide class efforts to achieve quality production.

STANDARDS OF PUBLICATION

1. The publication shall serve as a vehicle for use of knowledge gained in related classes.
2. The publications shall exhibit responsible journalism by being factually accurate and grammatically sound. The publications shall be guided by libel laws and the established standards of proper journalism set forth in classroom instruction.

STUDENT JOURNALISM

Student journalists have the right to report on crucial events in the school, community, nation, and world. Freedom of expression goes hand-in-hand with responsibility for the published statement. The students should be encouraged through practice to learn to judge journalistic value, newsworthiness, and propriety. The students must observe the legal responsibilities imposed upon all new media. Therefore, student journalists may not expect publication of material that may be:

1. Obscene;
2. Libelous;
3. Pervasively indecent or vulgar;
4. Creating a clear and present likelihood that it will cause a disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
5. Factually inaccurate or does not meet journalistic standards established for the publications;
6. Violation of the privacy rights of an individual.

EDITORIAL CONTENT

1. Student newspapers shall provide space for free, responsible expression of student and faculty views and opinions within the framework of the Board's policy on student freedom of expression.
2. The publication shall provide editorial balance.

ADVERTISING CONTENT

The publications shall never knowingly publish advertising, which is:

1. Designed to mislead, deceive, defraud;
2. Indecent or offensive;
3. An attack of a personal, racial or religious nature;
4. In violation of local, state or federal laws or encourages violation of laws affecting minors.

NEWS CONTENT

Significant news space will be dedicated to informing students and parents/guardians of the School Board's goals and the school's improvement efforts. Research will be done on ways to help students strive towards excellence in learning, School to Work experiences, service learning, and career and life roles. District recognized alternative education programs, will be advertised and featured from time to time. Special emphasis will be given to helping students chart out career goals for themselves and to seek higher levels of performance in their chosen career pathways.

THE PRINCIPAL

The principal shall establish school rules which:

1. May limit the time of such distribution of material on school property, and circulation of petitions, to periods before school begins, after dismissal and during lunchtime, when such limitation is necessary to prevent interference with the school program;
2. May define the places where such distribution of materials and circulation of petitions may be conducted so as to permit the normal flow of traffic within the school and at exterior doors;
3. May define the places where such distribution of materials and circulating petitions so as to prevent undue levels of noise and to prevent the use of coercion in obtaining signatures on petitions and may establish reasonable requirements for removing litter which results from distribution of materials and circulation of petitions;
4. Shall provide at least one student bulletin board for printed material;
5. May require that material posted on bulletin boards be dated before posting and be removed after a reasonable time to assure continued access to the bulletin board;
6. May describe the manner of identifying the name and address of the individual or organization sponsoring the material, petition or notice;
7. May be necessary for the distribution of publication materials through district electronic communications means consistent with Board policy and procedures governing the use of these devices;
8. Shall inform students of the Board policy and administrative guidelines. Students who violate the Board policy or school rules hereunder shall be subject to such discipline as may be appropriate in view of the nature and circumstances of the violation.

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OBITUARIES

No newspaper, issue thereof, yearbook, or portion thereof, including a tribute page, shall be dedicated to or in memory of a current or former student or district employee whose death occurs during the school year.

However, their passing may be recognized through an obituary in the school yearbook or issue of the school newspaper. An obituary shall be written in a tasteful and respectful manner according to the following guidelines and with the approval of the Superintendent or designee:

1. Publication of only factual information (date of birth, date of death, notable biographical information, school activities, community organizations, hobbies, interests, and survivors) and, if timely, funeral service arrangements and/or contribution details.
2. Cause of death will not be listed.
3. Accompanying photograph of the deceased will be limited to one 1 inch by 2 inch photograph in a 1/8 inch page space.
4. Permission from the deceased's family to publish an obituary is required.

The news staff may report on the death if it is deemed newsworthy and appropriate.

END OF ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

REVIEWED: 1/12/09, 2/2/09, 5/13/25

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