

Ashland School District 5

Code: **IGDB**
Adopted: 5/10/04
Readopted: 6/12/17
Orig. Code(s): IGDB

Student Publications

(Grades K - 8 only, see policy IB for grades 9 - 12)

Students' First Amendment rights to freedom of expression and equal protection of the laws will be observed in regard to district-sponsored student publications of the "public forum" variety. In accordance with established law, the observance of these rights must be balanced against the duty of educating students in an orderly and efficient manner while protecting the rights of all, including students, faculty, administrators and members of the public.

Some student publications, such as annual yearbooks, school newspapers and online publications may be educational devices developed as part of the curriculum to benefit primarily those who compile, edit and publish them. Faculty advisors will be assigned to guide students engaged in these activities. Any commercial advertisements in such publications will conform to Board policy and administrative regulations.

Students may be required to submit publications for approval prior to distribution. When approval is required, school administrators must make available to students the standards which will be used to determine the granting or denying of permission. Such guidelines will be specific and will be directed toward ascertaining which publications will cause substantial disruption of, or material interference with school activities, intrusions into school affairs or the lives of others or contain libelous or obscene content. Where possible, every reasonable effort will be made to obtain student concurrence with any proposed changes.

Criteria will be established to spell out what is not permitted. A definite brief time limit will be set within which school officials must approve or disapprove distribution. To be valid these guidelines must prescribe a procedure for appeals from students.

It will be the responsibility of the principals to develop reasonable and specific regulations setting forth the time, manner and place in which distribution of student publications may occur. Students who become subject to discipline for failure to comply with distribution rules will be granted procedural due process rights.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.072](#)
[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 339.880](#)

[OAR 581-021-0050](#)
[OAR 581-021-0055](#)

Hazelwood Sch. Dist. v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).

Cross Reference(s):

IB - Freedom of Expression