

Student Demonstrations and Petitions

Demonstrations or protests which are not disruptive and which do not interfere with the district program or other people's rights are permissible. A student may not be penalized simply for espousing unpopular causes as long as the student does not interfere with school or others' rights.

The district is committed to taking all legal steps necessary to assure the safety and well-being of the students and staff in the schools. Disorder and disruption of the school educational program will not be tolerated and persons attempting such actions will be held accountable. If it becomes necessary in order to assure safe and orderly school operation, the district fully intends to enforce all laws and to seek prosecution of those who violate them. Students involved in school disruption, vandalism, violence or other illegal acts will be subject to suspension or expulsion from the district's schools. Students who engage in disruptive demonstrations will be required to desist and disperse immediately.

Failure to comply with a directive to disperse will result in immediate suspension from school. If those who interfere with the school process are suspended and still persist, they will be subject to immediate arrest for trespassing. Under no circumstances are individual school administrators authorized to negotiate on any demands in order to end a demonstration.

Demonstrations

Students are permitted to hold demonstrations on district property under the following conditions:

1. The demonstration must be scheduled with the superintendent in advance; a crowd control plan must be presented;
2. The demonstration must not disrupt classroom activities;
3. The demonstration must not present a threat to student or staff safety or be a hazard to school property;
4. No resource person may be present unless the provisions of Board policy are met.

Petitions

Students may petition for a change in Board policies, administrative regulations or school rules. Circulation of such petitions must be reviewed by a building administrator prior to circulation and must be submitted to the superintendent upon completion. The superintendent will forward petitions to appropriate authorities.

Informal Student Gatherings

Students gathered informally shall not disrupt the orderly operation of the educational process.

Students gathered informally shall not infringe upon the rights of others to pursue their activities.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.072](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-021-0050](#)

[OAR 581-021-0055](#)

Cross Reference(s):

IB - Freedom of Expression

IGDA - Student Organizations