

Douglas County
School District 15

Code: **IGDB**
Adopted: 10/08/03
Readopted: 1/20/15
Orig. Code(s): IGDB

Student Publications

Students' First Amendment rights to freedom of expression and equal protection of the law will be observed regarding district-sponsored publications. The observance of these rights must be balanced against the duty of educating students in an orderly manner to protect the rights of all.

Some student publications, such as yearbooks and school newspapers, may be educational devices developed as part of the curriculum to benefit primarily those who compile, edit and publish them. Staff advisors will be assigned to guide students engaged in these activities. Ultimately, for purposes of this policy, the superintendent or designee is considered "editor" of all such publications. Any commercial advertisements in such publications will conform to Board policy and administrative regulation.

Students shall be required to submit publications for approval prior to distribution. The superintendent or designee must make available to students the standards which will be used to determine granting or denying permission to publish. Such guidelines will be specific and will be directed toward ascertaining which publications will cause substantial disruption of, or material interference with, school activities or intrusions into school affairs or the lives of others.

Prior restraints will contain precise criteria which spell out what is forbidden. 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 superintendent to develop and circulate 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