

Hermiston School District 8R

Code: **IB-AR**
Adopted: 7/1/92
Effective: 7/6/04; 8/3/04
Orig. Code(s): IB, IGDB, INDB, JGD, KJA

Freedom of Expression

1. Students are encouraged to express personal opinions in speeches and in writing for school publications; however, since such free expression is part of the learning process, school officials may review publications and speeches to be given by students and counsel students on matters of libel, slander, journalistic ethics and the probable effect of statements or writings on the goals or orderly operation of the school.
2. Under certain conditions (in designated time so as not to interfere with school programs), students may obtain school authorization to sell materials or engage in activities that solicit student financial contributions.
3. Students may refuse to participate in patriotic exercises as long as such nonparticipation does not significantly infringe upon the rights of others or does not disrupt the educational process.
4. Symbolic and actual freedom of expression shall not interfere with the freedom of others to express themselves. The use of profane or obscene language and threats of harm to persons or property are prohibited.
5. Willful disobedience, open defiance of a teacher's or school official's authority will be sufficient cause for discipline.
6. Any publication sponsored or in any way funded by the school shall be known as a school publication as opposed to a student publication. EXAMPLE - A school newspaper should reflect the total life of a school community. Even though the publication may be accomplished by a student effort, the student has a responsibility to the total school community.
7. Libelous and profane or obscene matter is prohibited in all publications. Free speech rights outlined in the First Amendment must be balanced against the state's duty to educate students and to protect the rights of all students.