

Student Theater Performance

The Board recognizes student theatrical performances to be a fundamental aspect of an educational atmosphere that fosters open discussion, free inquiry, intellectual, cultural, and artistic exchanges, and freedom of expression. The following policy and definitions are put forth to establish guidelines and procedures for selecting and reviewing theatrical work.

1. Selecting and Approving the Production: The director makes his/her repertory choice and presents it to the principal. The director will make the material available to the principal to read and review 45 days before production schedule.

The director is encouraged to select a variety of material as to ensure a wide spectrum of students an opportunity to participate over time.

2. The principal is required to read and review the selected material and respond to the director regarding the choice of material no later than one week from the date the material is received so as not to impact the production schedule.
3. The principal and director shall use the following criteria in evaluating the play:
 - a. The selection reasonably addresses identifiable educational objectives for the students involved;
 - b. The selection is consistent with District policies;
 - c. The selection does not contain material that falls under any of the four categories of unprotected speech defined as:
 - (1) Obscenity;
 - (2) Defamation;
 - (3) Material that is likely to be disruptive of school activities;
 - (4) Material that breaches the separation between church and state.
4. In the event that there is a disagreement on the selection, the principal and director will discuss the issues and concerns. If the principal opposes the selection, the director may appeal his/her choice to the superintendent.
5. The selection and approval of the play must be finalized before the announcement of the play and before auditions begin.
6. Students must read the material in its entirety before accepting a part and have parent approval to participate in the production.

7. Playbills may notify audiences of content that might warrant age restrictions.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.072](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-021-0050](#)

[OAR 581-021-0055](#)

Bethel Sch. Dist. v. Fraser, 478 U.S. 675 (1986).