

## **Student Publications**

Students' First Amendment rights to freedom of expression and equal protection of the law will be observed in regard to district-sponsored student publications. The observance of these rights must be balanced against the legitimate needs of the educational process. Publications cannot cause substantial disruption of or material interference with school activities, programs, services, routines or schedules or intrude into school affairs, the lives of others or contain libelous or obscene content.

Some student publications, such as annual 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. Any commercial advertisements in such publications will conform to Board regulations.

Students may be required to submit publications for review and approval (i.e., prior restraint) prior to publication and/or distribution. When approval is required, school administrators 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 district activities or contain libelous or obscene content.

Prior restraints will contain precise criteria which spell out what is prohibited. 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.

### **All Publications**

It will be the responsibility of local school administrators to develop and circulate reasonable and specific rules 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

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**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