

## PUBLICATIONS

The Board permits and encourages the preparation and distribution of school sponsored publications under staff and administrative direction so that pupils learn and appreciate the rights and responsibilities of the press in a free society. Pupils are encouraged to develop skills of written and verbal communication and to exercise the right to express their opinions freely and responsibly.

The rights of free speech, and free expression of pupils in public schools pursuant to the First Amendment, are not automatically coextensive with the rights of adults in other settings and shall be applied in light of the special characteristics of the school environment. The Board reserves the right to exercise prepublication control over school sponsored publications through administrative staff and faculty. Pupils shall have the right to appeal the exercise of censorship by District staff to the Board.

Pupil expression may be restricted, if it can be determined that such expression is inconsistent with the basic educational mission of the District and when censorship action is reasonably related to legitimate educational concerns.

Pupils who violate this policy by expression, publication or distribution of any materials which are biased or prejudiced, vulgar or profane, unsuitable for immature audiences, or which do not meet the District's high standards of learning and propriety consistent with its educational goals and objectives may be subject to appropriate discipline.

This policy shall be implemented in accordance with regulations to be developed by the Superintendent or his/her designee. The regulations shall:

- A. Identify District staff responsible for pupil publications;
- B. Establish procedures for prepublication review; and
- C. Specify procedures for appeal by pupils to the Board with provisions for prompt decisions to be made at each level.

### Web Sites

School-sponsored publications, including web sites, are also subject to this policy and to the same regulatory constraints.

Date: January 18, 1983

Date Revised: May 17, 1988

Date Revised: November 28, 2011

**Legal References:**

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:11-1	General mandatory powers and duties
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36-35	School Internet web sites; disclosure of certain student information prohibited
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:54-20	Powers of boards (county vocational schools)
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-3.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Implementation of the Core Curriculum Content Standards

Tinker v. Des Moines Independent School District, 393 U.S. 503 (1969)

Bethel School District No. 403 v. Fraser, 478 U.S. 675 (1986)

Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)

Desilets v. Clearview Regional Board of Education, 137 N.J. 585 (1994)

**Possible**

**Cross References:**

1111	District publications
5145	Rights
5145.2	Freedom of speech/expression
5145.5	Photographs of pupils
6142.10	Technology
6145.3R	Publications