

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Definition of Official School Publications

Official school publications such as newspapers, yearbooks, and literary magazines may be prepared in regularly scheduled classes and are components of the curriculum approved by the Regional School Board. These publications are not intended to provide a public forum for students or the general public. With regard to these publications, the Regional School Board is the publisher, the director will serve as supervisor, a faculty sponsor is the co-editor and will function as advisor, and students will serve as editors and journalists.

Responsibilities of Student Editors and Journalists

Student assistant editors and journalists are responsible for preparing and writing factual material that is not obscene, defamatory, or an invasion of privacy or that

- is reasonably foreseeable to lead to the disruption of school activities or to endanger the health or safety of students or staff;
- advocates the commission of an unlawful act or the violation of a lawful school policy or regulation;
- advertises or advocates illegal products or services; or
- advocates prejudice, hatred, violence, or harassment.

Responsibilities of Student Publications Faculty Co-Editor

School publications faculty co-editors instruct students in the recognized practices and ethical considerations of journalism. Faculty members instruct students in appropriate journalistic techniques and consult with the director on material that may violate the law or recognized principles of journalism. Material that may be considered controversial by some members of the school community should be carefully considered by students and the faculty advisor, and brought to the attention of the director.

Responsibilities of the Director

The director is responsible for approving all publications, in accordance with Regional School Board policy and the director's judgment and discretion.

Adopted: February 16, 2017

Amended: October 17, 2019

Amended: August 19, 2021

Amended: September 19, 2024

Legal Refs Hazelwood School Dist. v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 261, 108 S. Ct. 562,
98 L.Ed.2d 592 (1988).

Cross Refs: Pol 0011 Nondiscrimination
Pol 5012 Equal Employment Opportunity/Nondiscrimination
Pol 8001 Equal Educational Opportunities/Nondiscrimination
Pol 5011/8000 Prohibition Against Harassment and Retaliation

Pol 0011 Nondiscrimination
Pol 4077/5091/6009.1 Tobacco Products and Nicotine Vapor Products
Pol 8002 Student Conduct
Pol 7010 Advertising in the Schools