

SCHOOL SPONSORED PUBLICATIONS & PRODUCTIONS

1. Statement of Policy.

The Board of Education authorizes school sponsored publications and productions as a means of instructing students in the process of responsible creative expression under adult supervision.

The publications and productions of the School District are not a public forum for the use of non-students or for the expression of values contrary to the Wayne Westside Community Values or those values inherent in the curriculum established for students by the Board.

As they work with students on productions and publications, the Board, while the ultimate authority, looks to faculty members and administrators to apply the criteria in this policy to guide them in their work.

2. Definition of Terms.

As used in this Policy:

“Publication” means all student work created as a curricular or extracurricular activity, and includes newspapers, yearbooks, e-mail, and web site content.

“Production” means a project created by a single or group of students as a curricular or extracurricular activity, and includes musical and dramatic productions, and radio and television programs.

3. Unacceptable Content of Publications and Productions.

The following content is unacceptable in a curricular or extracurricular student production or publication:

- a. Demeaning or derogatory ethnic, racial, religious, or gender references or stereotypes.
- b. Libel, slander, defamation.
- c. Advocacy of, or opposition to, a religion or religious practice except in a context in which it does not support or endorse a particular religion or religious practice.
- d. Obscene, indecent, or vulgar content that is inconsistent with the values inherent in the curriculum with respect to sexual experiences or practices.

- e. Content which incites, encourages, promotes or assists in preparation for an act of violence, intimidation, harassment, or bullying.
- f. Content which does not identify the author(s) and school curricular or extracurricular activity for which it was prepared.
- g. Content which advocates, incites, or advances the preparation for an act or acts which are illegal for minors.
- h. Content which advocates, incites, encourages or advances preparation for an act or acts which are dangerous to the health or welfare of students or their parent/guardian.
- i. Poorly researched or prepared work product that does not represent the best work of the students involved, and does not reflect the high standards expected in curricular and extracurricular productions and publications.

4. Criteria Not To Be Employed.

The content of a school publication or production shall not be restricted solely because:

- a. It supports or opposes an act or failure to act by a governmental entity or public official.
- b. It is critical of a School District policy or practice.

5. Unacceptable Distribution of Acceptable Content.

Publications and productions containing acceptable content shall not be distributed at a time or in a manner that:

- a. Disrupts a curricular or extracurricular activity.
- b. Restricts the passage of students, employees and visitors through school buildings and facilities.
- c. Causes litter or an unsafe condition in a School District school or facility.

6. Administrative Guidelines.

The Superintendent and administrative staff are directed to see to the implementation of the standards established in this policy in all school publications and productions.

The Superintendent is authorized to promulgate administrative guidelines to implement this policy.