

A. Official school publications defined:

An “official school publication” is material produced by students in the journalism,,newspaper, yearbook or writing classes and distributed to students either free or for a fee.

B. Expression in an official school publication:

1. No student shall express, publish, or distribute in an official school publication material which is:
 - a. obscene;
 - b. libelous;
 - c. slanderous: or
 - d. encourages students to:
 - 1) commit unlawful acts;
 - 2) violate school rules;
 - 3) cause the material and substantial disruption of the orderly and efficient operation of the school or school activity;
 - 4) disrupt or interfere with the educational program;
 - 5) interrupt the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere; or
 - 6) infringe on the rights of others.
2. The official school publication shall be produced under the supervision of a faculty advisor.

C. Responsibility of Students:

1. Students writing or editing official school publications shall assign and edit the news, editorial and feature contents of the official school publications subject to the limitations of the student publications code and the law.
2. Students shall strive to achieve through professional standards of accuracy, fairness, objectivity and thoroughness in each and every aspect of official school publications.
3. Students shall strive to achieve professional standards of grammar, usage, punctuation and spelling, for clarity and accuracy of official school

publications.

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D. Responsibilities of Faculty Advisors:

Faculty advisors shall supervise student writers to maintain professional standards of English and journalism and to comply with the law, including, but not limited to, the restrictions against unlawful speech.

E. Liability

Student expression in an official school publication shall not be deemed to be an expression of the school district. The school district, the board, and the school district employees or officials are not liable in any civil or criminal action for any student expression made or published by students, unless the school district employees or officials have interfered with or altered the content of the student expression. The liability, if any, is only to the extent of interference or alteration of the speech or expression.

F. Appeal Procedure:

1. Students who believe they have been unreasonably restricted in their exercise of expression in an official student publication shall seek review of the decision through the student grievance procedure, using the form in Board Policy 504.3R.
2. Persons who believe they have been aggrieved by a student produced official student publication shall file their complaint through the citizen grievance procedure, using the form in Board Policy 504.3R.

G. Time, place and manner restrictions on official school publications:

1. Official student publications may be distributed in a reasonable manner, on or off school premises.
2. Distribution in a reasonable manner shall not encourage students to:
 - a. Commit unlawful acts;
 - b. Violate school rules;
 - c. Cause the material and substantial disruption of the orderly and efficient operation of the school or school activity;

- d. Disrupt or interfere with the educational program;
- e. Interrupt the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere; or
- f. Infringe on the rights of others.

Complaint form for 504.3R

Name of Complainant _____ Date of Complaint _____

Name of Publication and Advisor for that Publication _____

Date of Publication which contains the material questioned: _____

Names of witness(es), if any _____

Attach evidence, such as the article or part of the publication named in the complaint.

Any other information:

I agree that all of the above information is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____