

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION**

Student Journalists

Generally, student journalists have the right to exercise freedom of speech and of the press in school sponsored media. "Student journalist," for the purpose of this Policy means a student who gathers, compiles, writes, edits, photographs, records or prepares information for dissemination in school sponsored media.

"School sponsored media" means those materials that are prepared, substantially written, published or broadcast by student journalists, that are distributed or generally made available, either free of charge or for a fee, to members of the student body and that are prepared under the direction of a student media adviser. School sponsored media does not include media intended for distribution or transmission solely in the classrooms in which they are produced.

School sponsored media prepared by student journalists are subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions, pursuant to federal law. School sponsored media cannot contain material that:

1. Is libelous or slanderous;
2. Is obscene, pervasively indecent or vulgar;
3. Is factually inaccurate or does not meet journalistic standards established for school sponsored media;
4. Constitutes an unwanted invasion of privacy;
5. Violates federal or state law; or
6. So incites students as to create a clear and present danger of:
 - a. The commission of unlawful acts on or off school premises;
 - b. The violation of district policies; or
 - c. The material and substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school. A school official will base a forecast of material and substantial disruption on specific facts, including past experience in the school and current events influencing student behavior, and not on subjective fear or apprehension.

Modifications or removal of items may be appealed in writing to the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall schedule a meeting on or before ten (10) school days of receiving the written appeal. Those present at the meeting shall include the individual(s) making the appeal, the individual(s) who made the decision to modify or remove materials and the Superintendent or designee. At the Superintendent or designee's discretion, the District's legal counsel may also attend the meeting. The Superintendent or designee shall make his/her decision on or before ten (10) school days of the meeting. The Superintendent or designee's decision shall be final and binding on all parties.

END OF POLICY

Legal References:

ORS 332.072

ORS 332.107

ORS 339.880

OAR 581-021-0050

OAR 581-021-0055

Hazelwood School District vs. Kuhlmeier: 108 S. Ct. 562 (1988)