

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Board encourages student publications as classroom-related learning experiences and as extracurricular activity. These allow for coverage of student activities and the writing and printing of original literary and artistic productions; however, certain necessary guidelines will be established to regulate the publication and dissemination of student publications.

School-Sponsored Publications

School publications afford an educational experience for those students interested in this activity and should provide an opportunity for the sincere expression of all facets of student opinion. These guidelines will be followed:

1. Advisors shall advise on matters of style, grammar, format and suitability of materials.
2. The school paper will reflect the policy and judgment of the student editors. Materials of a controversial nature should not be prohibited unless:
 - A. material imminently threatens to disrupt the educational process of the school, to damage other individuals or to advocate conduct that otherwise is inconsistent with the shared values of a civilized social order (e.g., advocating drug or alcohol use, etc.);
 - B. material threatens any person or a group within the school or advocates racial or religious discrimination;
 - C. material advocates violation of the law or official school regulations;
 - D. material is considered false or libelous, based upon available facts and
 - E. material is potentially harmful to juveniles or offensive according to community standards as to what is suitable for juveniles.
3. The final decision as to the suitability of material shall rest with the principal after consultation with the student editor and faculty advisor. Parties shall have the right of appeal to the Superintendent. The Superintendent decision is final.

Nonschool-Sponsored Publications

Students who edit, publish and/or wish to distribute nonschool-sponsored handwritten, printed or duplicated matter among their fellow students within the schools must assume responsibility for the content of the publication. Students may be restricted as to the time and place of distribution or may be prohibited from distribution.

[Adoption date: September 25, 1995]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.66; 3313.661

Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, __ U.S. __;
108 S.Ct. 562; 98 L.Ed.2d 592 (1988)

Fairfield City School District, Fairfield, Ohio

