

SCHOOL-SPONSORED EXPRESSIVE ACTIVITIES

The Columbia Board of Education recognizes the importance and educational value of demonstrations of student knowledge, skills and attitudes in school-sponsored expressive activities such as newspapers, yearbooks, student-created or student-edited web pages, and other publications; speech, dramatic, musical and other artistic performances; audio and video productions; and other activities which have a public display component. Information obtained from a student's personally identifiable education records shall not be disclosed in student publications unless the information is Directory Information or the district has received written consent from the parent/guardian or eligible student to release the information.

Such school-sponsored activities are an integral part of the curriculum, and students typically earn academic credit for their participation. Recognizing that the Board is responsible for the establishment, supervision, and maintenance of the curriculum and related activities, the Board retains the authority to control the style and content of school-sponsored student expressive activities.

Students of the Columbia School District shall have the right to exercise freedom of expression. With respect to school-sponsored student expression, this freedom shall include the rights and responsibilities, collectively and individually, to express their views through speech and symbols and to write, publish and disseminate their views, subject to reasonable regulation related to educational concerns. School-sponsored student expressive activities are not public forums to which there is unlimited or unrestricted access.

Sponsors of student activities shall supervise students to maintain professional standards at all times. A teacher's status is protected to carry out the standards of this policy. School-sponsored student expressive activities shall not be prohibited solely because the activity expresses any idea, popular or unpopular, highly controversial, or critical of school officials.

An activity, publication or distribution may be prohibited in accordance with appropriate limitations, definitions and approval and appeal procedures established by administrative procedures to this policy.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Adopted: 03/03/1997

FILE: IGDB
Critical

Revised: 02/12/2001

Cross Refs: EHB, Technology Usage
JO, Student Records

Legal Refs: *Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier*, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)

Columbia School District No. 93, Columbia, Missouri