

Administrative Regulation

Student Rights and Responsibilities

The Board of Education affirms the principle of freedom of speech and expression by students in the schools of the district. However, where expression, whether verbal or symbolic, materially disrupts class work, causes disorder, or invades the rights of others, appropriate disciplinary measures may be taken to prevent such disruptions and disorder or to protect the rights of others.

A. Freedom of Speech and Expression

1. Student Publications, Responsibilities of Advisors
 - a. Supervise the production of the student staff
 - b. Maintain professional standards of English and journalism as stated in the Code of Ethics or Canons of Journalism of the American Society of Newspaper Editors
 - c. Maintain provisions of Section 48907 of the Education Code
2. Student Publications, Responsibilities of Student Editors
 - a. Coordinate with advisor the activities of the staff members
 - b. Assign and edit the news, editorial, and feature content of their publications
3. Student Publications, General Guidelines

There shall be no prior restraint of materials prepared for official school publications except where material for publication or expression may:

- a. be obscene, libelous, or slanderous
- b. incite students as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises
- c. violate lawful school regulations
- d. substantially disrupt the orderly operation of the school

4. Appeal Process

- a. In the event the principal believes that material for publication violates E.C. 48907, the principal shall inform the advisor and the student editor within three school days. If the advisor or the student editor disagrees with the objections of the principal, a meeting may be requested with the principal which shall be held within three school days.
- b. If a resolution is not reached, an appeal of the decision may be made to the administrator of Secondary Education, who will arrange a meeting within five school days.
- c. If a resolution is not reached, an appeal may be made to the superintendent, who will render a decision within five school days.
- d. If a resolution is not reached, an appeal may be made to the Governing Board, who will place the matter on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. If there is insufficient time to place the matter on the next agenda, then it shall be placed on the agenda of the following meeting. The decision of the Governing Board shall be the final administrative decision.

B. Arm Bands, Other Symbolic Attachments

The wearing of arm bands or other symbolic attachments is to be discouraged at all schools whenever there is strong evidence of potential disruption of the educational program, or if there are indications of harm to the individual.

The position of the district will be not to suspend students for wearing of arm bands or other symbolic attachments unless there is actual disruption of the educational program.

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