

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

I. SCHOOL SPONSORED PUBLICATIONS

A. Purpose of Student Publications

1. Yearbooks may be published as chronicles or records of school life and events. As such, they are neither literacy publications nor public forums.
2. Newspapers may be published to report current school events and to allow expression of student opinion on events and issues relevant to school life.
3. Literacy may be published to allow expression of students' artistic and literary efforts, including poetry, short stories and art.

B. Content

Student editors have initial responsibility in determining content. The faculty advisor may override the student editor's decision, but shall give substantial and due regard for the judgment of the student editors and for the educational value of the exercise of that judgment. Students disagreeing with a decision that the content of material is not acceptable may seek review under "due process" procedures.

In all instances, student editors shall be guided by the written criteria for acceptability of content.

II. NONSCHOOL SPONSORED PUBLICATIONS

Distribution of any nonschool sponsored materials of literature on school property shall receive prior approval of the principal, who shall review the materials under the written goals and criteria established for school-sponsored publications. If a student claims that materials were improperly excluded by the principal, he or she may seek review under "due process" procedures.

III. TIME, PLACE AND MANNER OF DISTRIBUTION

The principal may designate the time, place and manner of distribution of acceptable materials. Students distributing materials will be responsible for removing litter resulting distribution.

IV. FAILURE TO COMPLY

Failure of students to comply with this policy and associated guidelines may result in confiscation of materials, curtailment of privilege of publications and distribution, and/or disciplinary action.

Adopted: April 13, 1987
Department of Public Schools, Augusta, Maine