

Student Publications

Students will enjoy the constitutional rights of freedom of expression. They will have the right to express their views in speech, writing, or through any other medium or form of expression within limitations by Law and comparable to those imposed on all citizens but specifically designed for children and youth in a school setting.

The Bon Homme School Board will encourage student publications not only because they offer an educational activity through which students gain experience in reporting, writing, editing, and understanding responsible journalism, but also because they provide an opportunity for students to express their views.

All student publications will be expected to comply with the rules for responsible journalism. This means that libelous statements, unfounded charges and accusations, obscenity, defamation of persons, false statements, material advocating racial or religious prejudice, hatred, violence, the breaking of Laws and Bon Homme School District regulations or materials designed to disrupt the educational process will not be permitted.

The principal(s) will establish guidelines that are in keeping with the above and may request the review of the content of all student publications prior to their distribution.

Review of content prior to publication is not censorship but part of the educational process as this concerns student publications. It can be pointed out to students, as it frequently is to journalists, that a publisher (in this case, Bon Homme School District) enjoys freedom to determine what it will and will not publish.

The regulation of student publications shall be vested in the building principal with provisions for direct appeal successively to the Superintendent and to the Board.

Distribution of Literature: Students have the right to the distribution of literature on school grounds and in school buildings except that the principal may prohibit the distribution in school buildings of a specific issue or publication if it does not comply with the rules for responsible journalism. The principal may require that no literature be distributed unless a copy is submitted in advance. The time, place, and manner of distribution of literature will be reasonably regulated by the principal.

Revised: July 13, 1998; March 8, 2010