

INSTRUCTION

2345

Speakers in the Classroom and at School Functions

The Board allows the use of outside speakers when the speaker’s program is educationally sound, consistent with the curriculum, and follows District policies and procedures.

All speakers must have the school principal's approval prior to the speaking engagement. When a subject is controversial, the principal may decide to engage speakers for both sides. In no instance shall a speaker be permitted to address the students who advocates for unconstitutional or illegal acts or procedures. Parents or guardians will be given the option to remove their student from certain discussions, and an alternative educational endeavor will be given..

Controversial Speakers

The Board recognizes visiting speakers may be of specific viewpoints and their topics may be controversial. The Board encourages students to use critical thinking when examining controversial issues, discriminating between facts and opinions, and drawing independent conclusions. The Board recognizes many topics are not suitable for younger or less mature students which needs to be a consideration on speaker’s topics. Teachers will exercise professional judgment in determining the appropriateness of the issue to the curriculum and the maturity of the students. When in doubt regarding appropriateness, the matter should be referred to the principal. Teachers will not relinquish classroom responsibilities of a guest speaker.

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-512 District Trustees - Governance of Schools

Policy History:

Adopted on: August 13, 2007

Revised on: August 12, 2021

Reviewed on:

Revised on: February 13, 2023