

Student Petitions and Distribution of Non-Curricular Materials

Approval required prior to distribution

Students who wish to circulate petitions or distribute non-curricular materials in person or electronically on district property or at a district-sponsored activity or event shall submit the material to students' principal for approval at least five school days in advance of the planned distribution date so that details may be worked out regarding the time, place and manner of distribution. The principal or principal's designee shall respond to such requests within three school days. The principal is authorized to shorten this time period for good cause shown.

Students are required to produce an advance copy of the petitions or non-curricular materials that will be distributed for the principal's review solely for the purposes of determining whether the student has exercised proper judgment with respect to the content of such petition or materials and to determine whether they contain information which, in the principal's judgment, is prohibited by Board policy.

Appeal

If the principal does not approve the materials for distribution, the principal or principal's designee shall provide a written explanation of why the materials were not approved under the policy accompanying this regulation.

The student may then appeal the decision as follows:

1. Within 5 school days of receiving the principal's or designee's decision, the student may file a written notice of appeal with the appropriate Level Director.
2. The Level Director shall make a written determination within 5 school days of receiving the student's appeal.
3. Within 5 school days of receiving the Level Director's decision, the student may submit a written appeal to the superintendent or designee.
4. The superintendent or designee shall make a written determination within 5 school days of receiving the student's appeal.
5. Within 5 school days of receiving the superintendent's decision or that of the designee, the student may submit a request to the superintendent for a hearing before the Board.
6. The superintendent shall schedule the hearing on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, which generally will be held within 30 days of the filing of a request for a hearing.

After providing the student with an opportunity to be heard, the Board shall render a

decision, which shall be final.

The following restrictions apply to all requests to circulate petitions or distribute noncurricular materials by students on district property or at a district-sponsored activity:

1. Place. Circulation of petitions or distribution of non-curricular materials must be made at physical or electronic places within the district or on district property as designated by the principal except that in no event may such petitions or materials be circulated or distributed in any classroom of any building then being occupied by a regularly scheduled class.

2. Time. Circulation or distribution may be made up to one-half hour before school and/or during regularly scheduled lunch periods and/or 15 minutes after the last bell. Any other times during the school day are considered to be disruptive of normal district activities.

3. Littering. All distributed petitions or non-curricular materials discarded in school or on district grounds must be removed by the persons distributing such items.

4. Manner. No student or staff may in any way be compelled or coerced to sign any petitions or accept any non-curricular materials. In the alternative, no district official or student may interfere with the circulation or distribution of such petitions or materials distributed in accordance with this regulation and its accompanying policy.

Violation of this regulation and/or accompanying policy will be sufficient cause for denial of the privilege to circulate petitions or distribute non-curricular materials at future dates and may be cause for disciplinary action, including suspension and/or expulsion.

Adopted: November 4, 2020