

# Salinas City Elementary School District

Students

Policy #5145.2

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## **FREEDOM OF SPEECH/EXPRESSION: PUBLICATIONS CODE**

Free inquiry and exchange of ideas are essential parts of a democratic education. The Governing Board respects students' rights to express ideas and opinions, take stands, and support causes, whether controversial or not, through their speech, writings, printed materials and/or the wearing of buttons, badges and other insignia. (EC 48907)

Student freedom of expression shall be limited only as allowed by law in order to maintain an orderly school environment and to protect the rights, health and safety of all members of the school community. Students shall not be disciplined solely on the basis of constitutionally protected speech or other communication.

Because district schools have a closed forum, students may not post or distribute materials regarding the meetings of noncurricular student-initiated groups.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that due process is followed when resolving disputes regarding student freedom of expression.