

GBBA: Guest Speakers

In order to provide students with more comprehensive exposure to a topic of study, teachers may recommend the use of a guest speaker to present to a class or group of students. For the purposes of this policy, a guest speaker is defined as an individual not employed by the Divide County School District.

Such recommendations shall be made to the building principal who shall approve or deny the request. The principal's decision shall be governed by the following criteria; however, the establishment of these criteria in no way guarantees that approved speakers will present opinions and/or information in a non-disruptive manner consistent with the district's mission and instructional goals and objectives:

- Speakers who advocate unconstitutional or illegal acts or ideas shall not be allowed to present to district students.
- The speaker's topic must have a direct and demonstrable link to the program/course content and objectives or, in the case of an extracurricular activity, the activity's purpose and objectives.
- The speaker has the education or experience to present on the purposed topic.
- If the proposed presentation topic is of a controversial nature, there must be a means of ensuring that the topic is presented in a balanced manner (e.g., a qualified speaker from both sides of the issues is available to present).

If the principal approves a teacher's request for a guest speaker, the principal shall:

- Provide notice to parents of the presentation. If the speaker will address a controversial topic, the principal shall afford parents the option of opting their child out of the presentation. No academic sanctions shall be taken against such students and an alternative assignment may be provided.
- Require the speaker to agree, in writing prior to the presentation, to the following:
 - The speaker will follow all policies related to visitors in school.
 - The speaker will refrain from using profanity, vulgarity, and lewd language.
 - The speaker agrees to present material in an age-appropriate manner.
 - Generate a record of the date, time, name, and topic(s) covered by the guest speaker.

A guest speaker who violates this or other applicable policies, disrupts the educational environment, or endangers the health or safety of students/staff shall be asked by a teacher or principal to discontinue his/her presentation and leave school property. Refusal to leave school property when asked will be deemed to be a willful disturbance of school operations, and the District will contact law enforcement to assist with removing the violator from school property or the school sponsored event.

Complementing NDSBA Templates (may contain items not adopted by the Board)

- a. KAAA, Visitors in Schools
- b. KAAA-AR, Visitors in schools Regulations