

Book	Policy Manual
Section	(C) STUDENTS
Title	Policy C120 - Student Expression
Code	C120
Status	Active
Adopted	November 10, 1982
Last Revised	June 19, 2013
Last Reviewed	June 19, 2013

Policy Number: C120
Title: Student Expression
Section: Students

I. Purpose

The Joint Committee respects the right of students to express themselves in word or symbol and to distribute materials as a part of that expression, but recognizes that the exercise of that right must be limited by the need to maintain an orderly school environment and to protect the right of all members of the school community.

II. Authority

The Joint Committee reserves the right to designate and prohibit manifestations of student expression which are not protected by the right of free expression. Such expressions include those which:

- A. libel any specific person or persons
- B. advocate the use or advertise the availability of any product or service not permitted to minors by law
- C. are obscene, pornographic or vulgar
- D. are designed for commercial purposes
- E. constitute illegal harassment or create a hostile environment prohibited by law
- F. present a clear and present likelihood that they will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities
- G. substantially interfere with the educational process
- H. threaten harm to the school or community
- I. encourage unlawful activity
- J. interfere with another person's rights

Distribution of unprotected materials in the categories above is prohibited. Students who wish to distribute materials must submit them for prior review to the Director's designee. The designee will determine within 24 hours of receipt of the request whether the materials fall into any of the categories listed above. If they do not, he or she will grant permission to distribute them. Student appeal from the decision of the Director's designee shall be submitted to the Director and the Joint Committee in accordance with school rules. Decisions on such appeals shall be made promptly.

No distribution of printed materials shall take place at a place of school activity if it is reasonably likely to cause a substantial disruption of that activity or when the distribution blocks the flow of traffic within corridors or entry ways.

III. Delegation of Responsibility

The Director shall develop rules and regulations for the distribution of printed material which shall include:

- A. procedures for the prior review of all material to be distributed. Such procedures shall designate a reviewer, who shall bear the burden of showing the material to be unprotected, require that the time consumed by the review process not be so excessive as to constitute a prohibition in itself, and delineate an appeal process
- B. designation of the places at and times during which material may be distributed
- C. require that students who distribute printed materials be responsible for cleaning any litter that results from their activity
- D. disciplinary action for those students who distribute materials in contravention of this policy and the rules of this school or who continue the manifestation of an unprotected expression after a person in authority orders that they desist

School Code

PA Code (Title 22)

Adopted: 11/10/82

Revised: 10/12/94

Revised: 6/19/13

See also:

DP C120 - Student Expression