

Policy

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS BY STUDENTS AND STAFF

All material distributed to students should relate to school matters or student-related community activities. Except when it pertains to the individual student, all such material must be approved in advance by the chief school administrator/designee.

There is no district obligation to distribute or post any community group materials. But if the board of education determines to establish a "limited public forum" for the posting or distribution of materials by an individual or community group (i.e., non-profit or student-led), those materials shall be reviewed by the chief school administrator, who will not discriminate on the basis of viewpoint. The chief school administrator shall be permitted to consider the educational appropriateness of the material and any impact on the orderly conduct of board approved activities.

Students shall not be subjected to or used to distribute partisan materials pertaining to a school or general election, budget or bond issue, or negotiations. Students shall not be exploited for the benefit of any individual, group, or profit-making organization. Material that is not related to the approved curriculum shall not be distributed to students without the approval of the chief school administrator. The chief school administrator's approval may include materials pertaining solely to community events; however distribution of such material shall not imply board approval or endorsement. The district shall not be obligated to provide for the costs of any activity or materials advertised in any distributed materials unless those costs are expressly approved by the Board of Education.

All non-curricular materials distributed to students will clearly indicate their source. Non-curricular materials will be plainly labeled, including an express disclaimer that the activity is "not a school-sponsored activity." Flyers and parental permission slips will be subject to the same review and standards.

All surveys, questionnaires or other similar items requiring student or parent/guardian response shall be reviewed and approved by the chief school administrator prior to distribution. The chief school administrator shall solicit written permission from parents/guardians before students participate in surveys or research that requests personal information as set out in state and federal law.

Students will not be exploited for the benefit of any individual, group, or profit-making organization. Materials of the following kinds will not be approved for distribution, posting or display in or by the schools:

- A. Materials which are designed to solicit funds unless approved by the board.
- B. "Hate" literature, pornography, gratuitous depictions of violence, and other materials not suitable for distribution or display in the schools.

Adopted	July 21, 1964
Amended:	March 21, 1972
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NJSBA Review/Update: November 2014

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS BY
PUPILS AND STAFF (continued)

Readopted: June 16, 2015

Key Words

Distribution of Materials, Research, Freedom of Speech, 1st Amendment

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34 Written approval required prior to acquisition of certain survey information from students
N.J.S.A. 18A:42-4 Distribution of literature as to candidacy, bond issues, or other public question to be submitted at election; prohibited
N.J.S.A. 19:34-6 Prohibited actions in polling place on election day, exception for simulated voting
N.J.S.A. 19:34-15 Electioneering within or about polling place; disorderly persons offense

34 CFR 98.1 - Student Protection Rights Amendment

Child Evangelism Fellowship of New Jersey. vs. Stafford Township School District, No. 03-1101 (October 2004)

Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)

Possible

Cross References: *1100 Communicating with the public
 1315 Distribution of materials to students and staff
 *1322 Contests for students
 *1330 Use of School Facilities
 4135.16/4235.16 Work stoppages/strikes
 *5136 Fund-raising activities
 *6142.10 Technology
 *6145.3 Publications
 6162.5 Research

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.