

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS BY STUDENTS AND STAFF

Material being sent home with 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 superintendent/designee.

There is no district obligation to distribute or post any community group materials. But if a forum is opened up to any category of group (i.e., non-profit, non-partisan, community groups), the superintendent will not discriminate against speech or materials on the basis of its viewpoint or religious content.

The determination of the superintendent will be viewpoint-neutral in order to provide equal access to "limited public forums" including bulletin boards for notices, tables at back-to-school nights, or hand-outs to students.

Students shall not be used to distribute partisan materials or partisan information 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.

No staff member may distribute any materials on school property without prior approval of the superintendent. Materials will clearly indicate their source. Non-school-related 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 superintendent prior to distribution. The superintendent 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.

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1st Reading: September 22, 2015
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Key Words

Distribution of Materials, Research

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)

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS BY
STUDENTS AND STAFF (continued)

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

Possible

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| <u>Cross References:</u> | *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.