

## **FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION**

The free expression of student opinion is an important part of education in a democratic society. Students' verbal and written expression of opinion on school premises is to be encouraged so long as it does not substantially disrupt the operation of the school. Students are expressly prohibited from the use of vulgar and/or offensive terms in classroom or assembly settings.

### **Student Publications**

Student publications produced as part of the school's curriculum or with the support of the associated student body fund are intended to serve both as vehicles for instruction and student communication. Although substantively financed and operated by the district, students editors of school-sponsored media are responsible for determining the news, opinion, feature, and advertising content of the media, consistent with chapter 28 A.600 RCW. Material appearing in such publications may reflect various areas of student interest, including topics about which there may be controversy and dissent. When engaging with a controversial issue, student publications should strive to provide in-depth treatment and represent a variety of viewpoints. Such materials may not:

- Be libelous or slanderous;
- Be an unwarranted invasion of privacy
- Be obscene or profane, such that it would violate federal or state laws, rules or regulations or incites others to violate federal or state laws, rules or regulations, including the standards established by the federal communications act or applicable federal communication commission rules or regulations;
- Cause a substantial disruption of the school;
- Violate federal or state laws, rules, regulations, or advocate the violation of such laws; or
- Advertise tobacco products, liquor, illicit drugs, or drug paraphernalia.

The superintendent shall develop guidelines to implement these standards and shall establish procedures for the prompt review of any materials which appear not to comply with the standards

## **Distribution of Materials**

Students and district staff may distributed student publications or other materials on school premises in accordance with procedures developed by the superintendent. Such procedures may impose limits on the time, place, and manner of distribution including prior authorization for the posting of such material on school property.

Students responsible for the distribution of material which leads to a substantial disruption of school activity or otherwise interferes with school operations shall be subject to corrective action, including suspension or expulsion, consistent with student discipline policies.

Cross Reference: Board Policy 2340

3241

Religious-related Activities and Practices

Classroom Management,  
Discipline and Corrective

Legal References:WAC 392-400-215  
RCW 28A.600

Student rights

Laws of 2018, ch. 125, Student  
Freedom of Expression

KETTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 212

DATE OF ADOPTION: MAY 20, 2003

DATE OF REVISION: 10.26.15; 6.24.19