

## Distribution of Non-School Materials (Non-School Organizations)

### Non-School Organizations

This policy applies to distribution of materials produced by an organization, individual or group of individuals other than the School Committee or the school or as part of the curriculum of a particular class or a school-sponsored activity – non-school materials.

#### **Definition:**

Non-school materials. Materials including newspapers, flyers, notices, books, pamphlets or other written or printed material produced by an organization, individual or group of individuals other than the School Committee or the school and not related to school business. “Non-school materials” includes, but is not limited to, materials which express commercial endorsements or religious or political beliefs or points of view that students could reasonably believe to be sponsored, endorsed or given official imprimatur by the school.

#### **Procedure:**

An organization that wishes to distribute materials through the schools must first obtain permission from the Superintendent of Schools. In making his or her determination the superintendent shall consider the definition of “non-school materials” and the following:

- (1) Material that is defamatory, obscene, pornographic, indecent or vulgar shall not be distributed.
- (2) So-called “hate” literature that attacks any religious, racial or ethnic groups or disparages any person or group on the basis of age, sex, religion, race, national origin or handicap shall not be distributed.
- (3) Materials that promote hostility, disorder, violence or the commission of a crime shall not be distributed.
- (4) Material that is not appropriate to the emotional or cognitive development of the intended student recipient shall not be distributed.
- (5) Material that the superintendent has reason to anticipate will substantially interfere with the work of the school or impinge upon the rights of other individuals shall not be distributed.

If an organization is found to be distributing non-school materials within the school, the principal or his/her designee shall direct the organization member to cease its distributions.

Examples of materials permitted to be distributed:

- (1) Materials relating to school-sponsored or town-sponsored extracurricular activities such as physical education, summer recreation programs, holiday parties, library story hours, town parades, or town scholastic or athletic teams.
- (2) Materials such as notices of registration for Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Little League and other activities related to the school's educational mission and non-profit organizations approved by the superintendent.

Approved 06/16/94