

FGDD - Student Publications & Freedom of Expression

School-sponsored media as defined by NDCC [Ch. 15.1-19-25](#) shall be supervised by a student media advisor but shall not be reviewed by an administrator unless the publication is believed to contain restricted content as listed below.

The following material is prohibited from being published in school-sponsored media.

1. Material that is profane or pornographic
2. Material that is slanderous or libelous in nature
3. Material that infringes or may infringe on the privacy rights of others
4. Material that violates federal or state law, promotes violence, terrorism, or other illegal activities including, but limited to, material that promotes tobacco and/or drug and alcohol use by minors
5. Material that is reasonably forecasted to materially and substantially disrupt the educational environment
6. Material that violates or incites the violation of policy including, but not limited to, the district's policies on bullying and harassment
7. Material that poses a direct safety threat to the District, its students, and/or staff

A decision to prohibit publication and distribution of a student publication with restricted content shall be made by the building principal and may be appealed to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall investigate and issue a decision in a timely manner. The Superintendent's decision is binding.

The Superintendent and High School Principal will develop handbook policy to identify the time, place, and manner restrictions that apply to the dissemination of school-sponsored media (e.g., students newspapers shall only be placed in receptacles near school entrances, no school-sponsored media shall be distributed in the classroom with the exception of journalism courses, etc.).