

STUDENT DISTRIBUTION OF NON-CURRICULAR MATERIALS

The purpose of this policy is to allow students to exercise freedom of expression on school property or during school-sponsored activities while balancing those rights against RSU 29's educational objectives and responsibilities.

Students may distribute, at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner, non-curricular materials.

For the purpose of this policy, "non-curricular materials" includes materials that are not sponsored or authorized by the school or RSU 29. Examples of non-curricular materials include flyers, brochures, leaflets and underground newspapers.

Students may not distribute non-curricular materials that:

- A. Are vulgar, indecent or obscene;
- B. Are libelous;
- C. Personally attack, insult or denigrate a person or group based on race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, ancestry or national origin, or disability, or which would be considered "hate literature;"
- D. Infringe on another person's right to privacy;
- E. Promote the illegal use of weapons or tobacco, alcohol, drugs or other products that are illegal for minors;
- F. Threaten violence or advocate the commission of illegal acts or violation of Board policies or school rules; or
- G. Clearly threaten to cause a substantial disruption of the instructional program or the operations of the school.

The building principal may designate locations within the school or on school grounds where students may distribute non-curricular materials or set up a table for distribution.

Students may not distribute materials during class time. Distribution may be made 30 minutes before school, during scheduled lunch periods and/or 30 minutes after the close of school.

No student will be compelled or coerced to accept any materials being distributed.

The building principal may halt distribution if, in his/her opinion, such distribution is substantially interfering with the instructional program or the orderly operations of the school.

Students are responsible for picking up any materials they have distributed that have been discarded in the area of distribution.

Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary consequences.

Cross Reference: JJE – Student Fundraising

Adopted: October 3, 1988

Revised: November 1, 1999; February 2, 2015