

POLICY: 502.9

OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Official student publications are those created by Fort Dodge student writers/media producers and published through District classroom teachers or advisors. The production of such publications is encouraged. However, student expression in official student publications shall not be deemed an expression of the school or the District. Official publications, sponsored or authorized by District staff, are a result of implementing the District's curriculum. Official student publications include two types:

- (a) school publications (e.g. newspaper, yearbook, video yearbook, TV program, literary magazine)
- (b) classroom publications (e.g. classroom writings booklet, video productions.)

Students have the right to exercise their freedom of expression by publishing, broadcasting, or distributing official student publications. This right shall be denied only when the material to be published, broadcast, or distributed:

- (a) is obscene, libelous, or slanderous;
- (b) encourages students to commit unlawful acts, violate lawful school rules;
- (c) would cause material and substantial disruption of the orderly and efficient operation of the school or school activity.

Official student publications shall meet the standards outlined in Procedures: Exhibit 502.9 for distribution.

The Principal or his/her designee is designated as the person to make a final denial decision.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).
Bystrom v. Fridley High School, 822 F.2d 747 (8th Cir. 1987).
Iowa Code § 280.22.

Adopted: 08/27/96

Revised:

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