



ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

Freedom of Expression

INS-A029

Policies are periodically revised. Users of this policy should check the QAM website for the most recent version.
<http://www.salkeiz.k12.or.us/content/qam/qam-documents>

1. The process of educating students for a responsible democratic society requires reasonable opportunity for them to exercise the rights of freedom of expression within the school system. The District requires, however, that students exercise their rights fairly, responsibly and in a manner not disruptive to other individuals or to the educational process.
2. Freedom of Student Inquiry and Expression:
 - 2.1. Generally, students and student organizations are free to examine and discuss questions of interest to them and to express opinions publicly and privately within the school system, provided such examination and expression is fair and reasonable and is not disruptive to other individuals or to the education process.
 - 2.2. Students may support or oppose causes by orderly means which do not disrupt other individuals or the operation of the school.
 - 2.3. In the classroom, students are free to examine views offered in any course of study, provided such examination is expressed in a responsible manner.
3. Freedom of Association:
 - 3.1. Students are free to organize associations to promote their common interests.
 - 3.2. Student organizations must be open to all students and may not exclude students on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, disability, marital status or sex.
4. Publications:
 - 4.1. On occasion, materials such as leaflets, newsletters, cartoons and other items are prepared and distributed by students as part of the educational process and free expression in an academic community.
 - 4.2. The principal or his/her designee may restrict or prohibit material if they deem the material to present legitimate educational concerns. Such concerns include:
 - 4.2.1. The material is or may be defamatory.
 - 4.2.2. The material is inappropriate based on the age, grade level and/or maturity of the reading audience.
 - 4.2.3. The material is poorly written, inadequately researched, biased or prejudiced.
 - 4.2.4. Whether there is an opportunity for a named individual or named individuals to make a response.
 - 4.2.5. Whether specific individuals may be identified even though the material does not use or give names.
 - 4.2.6. The material is or may be otherwise generally disruptive to the school environment. Such disruption may occur, for example, if the material uses, advocates or condones the use of profane language or advocates or condones the commission of unlawful acts.
 - 4.2.7. Students, parents and members of the public might reasonably perceive the materials to bear the sanction or approval of the district.
5. High School Student Journalists:
 - 5.1. Generally, high school student journalists have the right to exercise freedom of speech and of the press in school-sponsored media.



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- 5.1.1.School-sponsored media means materials that are prepared, substantially written, published or broadcast by student journalists that are distributed or generally made available, either free or charge or for a fee, to members of the student body and that are prepared under the direction of a student media adviser.
5.1.2.School-sponsored media does not include media intended for distribution or transmission solely in the classrooms in which they are produced.
5.2. School-sponsored media prepared by student journalists are subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions, pursuant to state and federal law. School-sponsored media cannot contain material that:
5.2.1.Is libelous or slanderous.
5.2.2.Is obscene, pervasively indecent or vulgar.
5.2.3.Is factually inaccurate or does not meet journalistic standards established for school-sponsored media.
5.2.4.Constitutes an unwarranted invasion of privacy.
5.2.5.Violates federal or state law.
5.2.6.So incites students as to create a clear and present danger of:
5.2.6.1. The commission of unlawful acts on or off school premises.
5.2.6.2. The violation of district policies, procedures, or school rules.
5.2.6.3. The material and substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school.
5.3. The principal or his/her designee may restrict or prohibit material they deem to present legitimate educational concerns as listed in section 4.2.
5.4. Any modification or removal of material may be appealed in writing to the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Implementing Procedures:

Revision History:

Table with 3 columns: Date, Revision, Description. Row 1: 03/18/13, (blank), Approved by Cabinet.

Approved By: Level Office Director (approval on file)