File: JP

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Definition of Official School Publications

Official school publications such as newspapers, yearbooks, and literary magazines may be prepared in regularly scheduled classes and are components of the curriculum approved by the School Board. These publications are not intended to provide a public forum for students or the general public. With regard to these publications, the School Board is the publisher, the principal is the editor, the faculty sponsor is the co-editor, and students appointed by the co-editor may serve as assistant editors and journalists.

Responsibilities of Student Editors and Journalists

Student assistant editors and journalists are responsible for preparing and writing factual material that is not obscene, defamatory, or an invasion of privacy or that

- is reasonably foreseeable to lead to the substantial disruption of school activities or to endanger the health or safety of students or staff;
- advocates the commission of an unlawful act or the violation of a lawful school policy or regulation;
- advertises or advocates illegal products or services; or
- advocates prejudice, hatred, violence, or harassment.

Responsibilities of Student Publications Faculty Co-Editor

School publications faculty co-editors instruct students in the recognized practices and ethical considerations of journalism. Faculty members instruct students in appropriate journalistic techniques and consult with the principal regarding material that may violate the law or the recognized principles of journalism. Material that may be considered controversial by some members of the school community should be carefully considered by students and the faculty editor, and brought to the attention of the principal.

Responsibilities of the School Principal

The school principal is responsible for approving all publications in accordance with School Board policy and the principal's judgment and discretion.

Adopted: February 7, 2005 Amended: July 21, 2014 Amended: July 15, 2019

Legal Refs Hazelwood School Dist. v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 261, 108 S. Ct. 562,

98 L.Ed.2d 592 (1988).

Cross Refs: AC Nondiscrimination

© 5/19 VSBA WESTMORELAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

File: JP Page 2

GB Equal Employment Opportunity/Nondiscrimination
GBEC/JFCH/KGC Tobacco Products and Nicotine Vapor Products
JB Equal Educational Opportunities/Nondiscrimination

JFC Student Conduct

JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct

JFHA/GBA Prohibition Against Harassment and Retaliation