

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS BY PUPILS AND STAFF

Material being sent home with pupils should relate to school matters or pupil-related community activities. Except when it pertains to the individual pupil, all such material must be approved in advance by the chief school administrator/designee.

There is no district obligation to distribute or post any community group materials. But if a forum is opened up to any category of group (i.e., non-profit, non-partisan, community groups), the chief school administrator will not discriminate against speech or materials on the basis of its viewpoint or religious content.

The determination of the chief school administrator will be viewpoint-neutral in order to provide equal access to "limited public forums" including bulletin boards for notices, tables at back-to-school nights, or hand-outs to students.

Pupils shall not be used to distribute partisan materials or partisan information pertaining to a school or general election, budget or bond issue, or negotiations. Pupils shall not be exploited for the benefit of any individual, group, or profit-making organization.

No staff member may distribute any materials on school property without prior approval of the chief school administrator. Materials will clearly indicate their source. Non-school-related materials will be plainly labeled, including an express disclaimer that the activity is "not a school-sponsored activity." Flyers and parental permission slips will be subject to the same review and standards.

All surveys, questionnaires or other similar items requiring pupil or parent/guardian response shall be reviewed and approved by the chief school administrator prior to distribution. The chief school administrator shall solicit written permission from parents/guardians before students participate in surveys or research that requests personal information as set out in federal law.

Any materials deemed to be slanderous, aimed to create hostility, labeled as pornography, designed to advertise a product for sale or for rent, designed to solicit funds (unless approved by the CSA), or any literature which in manner and in any part thereof promotes, favors or opposes the candidacy of any candidate for election at any annual general municipal and school board election, will not be allowed to be distributed to students and staff. Likewise, these materials will not be permitted to be distributed by students and staff.

**Date:**

**First Reading: December 20, 2005**

**Second Reading and Adoption: January 18, 2006**

**Review Date: January 4, 2011 -- No Changes**

**Review Date: July 23, 2012 – No Changes**

**Review Date: November 11, 2016 – No Changes**

**Legal References:**

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:11-1	General Mandatory powers & duties of the board
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36-34	Written approval required prior to acquisition of certain survey information from students
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:42-4	Distribution of literature as to candidacy, bond issues, or other public question to be submitted at election; prohibited
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 19:34-6	Prohibited actions in polling place on election day, exception for simulated voting
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 19:34-15	Electioneering within or about polling place; disorderly persons offense

Child Evangelism Fellowship of New Jersey. vs. Stafford Township School District, No. 03-1101 (October 2004)

Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)

**Possible**

**Cross References:**

1100	Communicating with the public
1315	Distribution of materials to pupils and staff
1322	Contests for pupils
1330	Use of School Facilities
4135.16	Work stoppages/strikes
4235.16	Work stoppages/strikes
5136	Fund-raising activities
5145.5	Photographs of Students
6061.5	Access to Technology
6142.10	Technology
6145.3	Publications
6162.5	Research
9000	Role of the board
9110	Role of the member

**Key Words**

Distribution of Materials, Research