

RYE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
RYE, NEW YORK

5220

SCHOOL-SPONSORED STUDENT EXPRESSION

The Rye City School District encourages student expression in its many forms, including but not limited to the school newspapers, yearbooks, literary magazines, concerts, shows and art exhibits. The District believes these activities are an important part of student learning and enrich the life of the school community. Each school-sponsored activity offers unique opportunities for students to engage in creative and educational modes of expression.

All school-sponsored opportunities for student expression will comply with the rules set forth in this policy and in the Code of Conduct. Libelous statements, unfounded charges and accusations, obscenity, false statements; materials or performances advocating or expressing prejudice, hatred, discrimination, harassment, bullying or violence on the basis of a protected class (e.g., actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender [including gender identity and gender expression], or sex), the breaking of laws and school policies and/or regulations; or materials or performances designed to disrupt the educational process will not be permitted.

In addition, school-sponsored activities are not considered public forums. The District reserves the right to edit or delete such student expression which it believes is inconsistent with the District's basic educational mission.

When there is a disagreement between an advisor and a publication's student editorial board over a student submission, an appeal can be made to the school principal. The principal may agree to publish the student's submission or may convene a review committee of three teachers and three administrators to review the student submission and make recommendations to the principal. The principal will make the final determination.

If a student's submission is rejected, the student shall be given the opportunity to revise the content and re-submit to the editorial board, the advisor and/or the principal. This review process shall occur in a timely fashion so as not to disrupt the publication process.

Cross-ref: 5300, Code of Conduct
 5225, Student Personal Expression
 5225-R, Student Personal Expression Regulation

Ref: *Morse v. Frederick*, 127 S Ct 2618 (2007)
Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 US 260, 108 S Ct 562, (1988) (limits on student free speech rights in school-sponsored student pub)
Bethel School District v. Fraser, 478 US 675 (1986)
Tinker v. DesMoines Independent Community School Dist., 393 US 503, (1969) (limits on student free speech rights in school setting)
Thomas v. Board of Education, Granville Central School Dist., 607 F 2d 1043 (1979)
Trachtman v. Anker, et al., 563 F 2d 512 (1977)
Frasca v. Andrew et al., 463 F Supp 1043 (1979)
Matter of Beil and Scariati, 26 EDR 109(1986)

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