

STUDENT SERVICES

File: JP-R

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Definition of Official School Publications

- A. 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.
- B. These publications are not intended to provide a public forum for students or the general public.
- C. For these publications, the Charlottesville City School Board will be the publisher, the principal will be the editor, the faculty sponsor will be co-editor, and students appointed by the co-editor may serve as assistant editors and journalists.

Responsibilities of Student Editors and Journalists

- A. Student editors and journalists will be 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;
 - which advocates the commission of an unlawful act or the violation of a lawful school policy or regulation;
 - which advertises or advocates illegal products or services; or
 - which advocates prejudice, hatred, violence, or harassment on the basis of race, religion, national origin, ancestry or disability.
- B. All student editors and journalists shall receive instruction on the responsibilities as described below and consequences for not complying with the responsibilities described.
- C. Student editors and journalists will sign an agreement to abide by the responsibilities and acknowledgement of consequences prior to accepting the position.

Responsibilities of Student Publications Faculty Co-Editor

- A. School publications faculty co-editors will instruct students in the Code of Ethics of the American Society of Newspaper Editors and help students to understand and follow it.

STUDENT SERVICES

File: JP-R

Page 2

- B. Faculty members will instruct students in correct and appropriate journalistic techniques and consult with the principal, who is the editor, on material that may violate the law or the journalism Code of Ethics.
- C. Any 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 (editor).

Responsibilities of the School Principal (Editor)

- A. The school principal is responsible for approving all publications in accordance with Charlottesville City School Board policy and his/her judgment and discretion.
- B. If the principal is given material that has been considered controversial by faculty advisors or other staff, the principal is responsible for carefully reviewing the material and making the decision to approve or deny the approval for the inclusion of the material.
- C. The principal shall give the student editors the decision and the reason for the decision for any material not allowed. The decision of the principal shall be final.

Issued: August 17, 2009

Legal Reference: Hazelwood School Dist. v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 261, 108 S. Ct. 562-98 L.Ed.2d 592 (1988).

Cross References: AC Nondiscrimination
GB Equal Employment Opportunity/Nondiscrimination
JB Equal Educational Opportunities/Nondiscrimination
JFHA/GBA Sexual Harassment/Harassment Based on Race,
National Origin, Disability and Religion