

SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT
Salem, Connecticut

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

STUDENTS/COMMUNITY

Distribution of Materials by Students

Printed materials may be distributed to parents by students as an inexpensive means of mass communications. To provide the most effective use of this technique without exploitation of staff or students, the Superintendent or his/her designee may approve such distribution provided that the following criteria are met:

1. The materials relate to the school, community, local recreational or civic activities.
2. The materials do not promote any political party or candidate.
3. The materials do not promote private gain.
4. The materials do not advocate a position on any question that is pending before the town voters at a referendum.

To determine whether the request to distribute materials complies with overall school purposes and policy, the following criteria will be used:

- requests from school-connected organizations, such as parent-teacher-organizations, will be referred to the School Principal for approval; and
- requests from all other groups or individuals will be referred to the Superintendent or his/her designee for approval.

Use of Students

The Board of Education prohibits the use of students during normal school hours in activities which are not part of the normal educational and planned curriculum process. Permission for use of students in activities of a non-educational nature must be obtained from the Superintendent or his/her designee who will ensure that the student's rights in terms of voluntary activities are maintained and that students are not exploited either knowingly or unknowingly.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall interpret this policy strictly. The decision of the Superintendent or his/her designee will be final.

Budget/Referendum Materials

Information concerning a referendum, specifying the time, date, location, and the question(s) presented, may be disseminated through the students. This information may not contain statements, or be written in a manner which may advocate a position on a referendum question.

Advertising in the School

No advertising of materials used for commercial purposes shall be permitted in the school buildings or on the grounds of the District without prior approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee. Advertising in school publications shall be approved by the Building Principal. Ads concerning drug paraphernalia and any controlled substance are prohibited in any school-sponsored publication.

Use of Religious Materials

Religious materials may be used in the regular classroom to study the historical or cultural aspects of religion consistent with the curriculum but such material is prohibited if used to inculcate, proselytize or otherwise indoctrinate the practice of a religion.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes: 9-369b Explanatory text relating to local questions.

Policy Adopted: June 14, 1994

Policy Revised 1st Reading: May 1, 2006

Revised Policy Approved: May 15, 2006

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