COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Distribution of Materials (Use of 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 providing:

In general, the materials must:

1. Relate to the school, community, local recreational or civic activities.

2. Not relate to any religious belief or activity, or promote private gain.

3. Not promote any political party, candidate, or issue.

All requests from groups or individuals to have students distribute materials to people in the school community, with the exception of requests from school-connected organizations like parent-teacher organizations or Board appointed citizens’ ad hoc advisory committees, will be referred to the office of the Superintendent to determine whether the requests comply with overall school purposes and policy.

Budget/Referendum Materials

Information concerning a budget or referendum, specifying only general information may be disseminated through the students. This information may not contain statements, or be written in a manner which may advocate a position on the budget or on a referendum question.

Advertising in the Schools

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 student publications shall be regulated by the rules and regulations developed by the Superintendent or his/her designee. Advertisements promoting drug paraphernalia, alcohol use, controlled substances, gambling or sexually explicit materials are prohibited in school-sponsored publications.
Student Lead Dissemination of Religious Materials

Materials that have a religious content may be made available to students during non-instructional time. The District shall impose content neutral, time, place and manner restrictions on the dissemination of religious materials to ensure that students are aware that the materials are not being endorsed or sponsored by the District.

(cf. 3152 Spending Public Funds for Advocacy)

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

Policy adopted: November 8, 2010