

# Students

## Freedom of Speech/Expression

5145.2

The school district shall recognize and protect the rights of student speech and expression. It will balance these rights with the interests of an orderly and efficient educational process and of a school environment suitable for healthy growth and development of all students.

Printed material produced or distributed within the confines of school district property shall not:

1. contain libelous or obscene language;
2. advocate illegal actions;
3. contain false statements or innuendoes that would subject any person to hatred, ridicule, contempt, or injury to reputation;
4. threaten imminent disruption of the school's educational process;
5. advocate actions which would endanger student health or safety;
6. invade the lawful rights of others;
7. be sold on school property, nor can material which solicits funds or donations be circulated.

Distributors of materials will be held responsible for cleaning up litter caused by such distribution.

### Legal Reference:

*Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District*, 393 U.S. 503 (1969).

*Grayned v. City of Rockford*, 408 U.S. 104 (1972).

Amendment of U.S. Constitution - Article I.

Connecticut Constitution, Article First, Declaration of Rights, Sections 4, 5.

Academic Freedom Policy (adopted by Connecticut State Board of Education, 9/9/81).