

Board Policy Document

STUDENT PERSONNEL

Series 500

**Policy Title: School-Sponsored Publications, Media and
 Theatrical Productions**

Code Number: 503.15

In tandem with the rights and responsibilities protected by the First Amendment of the U. S. Constitution, it is the policy of the Sioux City Community School District to support and encourage student publications, media and theatrical productions, and other expressive activities, as part of the school curriculum. However, it shall also be the policy of the Sioux City Community School District to exercise its responsibility to reasonably regulate content and style.

Students may produce official school publications, or media and theatrical productions, as part of the District's curriculum provided such production is under the supervision of a faculty advisor and the Principal.

The primary purpose of such productions (whether publications, media and/or theatrical productions) shall stem from the curriculum, and may include (but may not be limited to) the teaching of journalism, English, literary arts, writing, acting, or other skills. Such publications and productions are viewed as an integral part of the school curriculum, and are not intended to be public forums.

There may also, from time to time, be publications, productions, and/ or materials produced entirely by students outside of the purview of the school or its adopted curricula. These student-to-student communications may be distributed on school premises in accordance with procedures developed by the building Principal (and in accordance with board policy 1001.80) if presented in advance. Such procedures may impose reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of distribution or posting of printed materials in or on school property.

First Adoption: September 13, 1994
Revision Adoption: February 9, 1999/September 23, 2003/September 9, 2008
Legal Reference: Iowa Code Section 280.22; Hazelwood School District v. Kuhnmeier, 108 S.Ct.562 (1988)

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Distribution of such non-official materials will not be allowed if it causes a substantial disruption to the learning environment, or otherwise violates any of the prohibitions set for in Board Policy 503.13—Freedom of Expression; and will not be allowed if not submitted and approved for distribution in advance. In the latter instance, such distribution of materials shall be considered surreptitious, and subject to immediate cessation and revocation, and, where necessary, to appropriate disciplinary actions.