

STUDENT PERSONNEL

Student Publications

Students of the Anita Community School District (CAM H.S.) are protected in their exercise of freedom of expression by the First Amendment. Student expression in official school publications is not an expression of school policy. Public school districts and employees or officials are not liable in any civil or criminal action for any student expression made or published by students, unless the school employees or officials have interfered with or altered the content of a speech or expression, and then only to the extent of the interference or alteration of the speech or expression. Journalism advisors shall supervise student writers to maintain professional standards of English and journalism and to comply with the Iowa Law including the restrictions against unlawful speech in Iowa Code section 280.22.

Rules:

No student shall publish in an official school publication, material which is obscene, libelous, or encourages students to commit unlawful acts, violate school rules, cause the material and substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school, or infringe on the rights of others.

Appeal Procedures:

Students who believe they have been unreasonably restricted in their freedom of expression in official student publications have the right to appeal within three days in writing as follows:

- a. After an appeal to the principal or faculty advisor,
- b. Appeal to a Faculty Appeal Panel - two teachers selected by the student and two by the administration.
- c. Next, appeal to the Superintendent of the School District.
- d. If not satisfied, appeal to the board of education at a special meeting or their regular meeting.
- e. If still unsatisfied, within 30 days, appeal to the State Board of Education or District Court.

I. Complaint Procedures

Any person aggrieved by the content of official student publications is directed to use the complaint procedures of Board Policy No. 204.12.

II. Responsibilities of Student Journalists

Student journalists who participate in official school publications are responsible for the content of those publications. Student journalists should at all times strive to achieve professional standards of accuracy, fairness, objectivity and thoroughness in each and every aspect of the publication. Student journalists should also strive to achieve professional standards of grammar, usage, punctuation and spelling, which are important to the clarity and accuracy of the publication.

III. Responsibilities of Faculty Advisers

Schools possess a substantial educational interest in teaching student writers journalistic skills. Journalism advisers shall supervise student writers to maintain professional standards of English and journalism and to comply with Iowa Law, including the restrictions against unlawful speech in Iowa Code section 280.22.

Date of Adoption: 06-09-86
Date of Review: 06-25-90; 12-20-93; 01-20-97; 01-17-00; 03-17-03, 03-19-07
Date of Revision: 02-21-05

LEGAL REF: Iowa Code 280.22 (1991)