Distribution of Materials

The board recognizes that nonprofit organizations may want to distribute materials in the school district that are non-curricular but that have social, recreational or educational value for students.

Any nonprofit group wishing to distribute informational material must first submit, to the superintendent or a designee, a copy of the material and a statement of the educational value the program provides to students.

Informational materials to be distributed must also be approved by the building principal and meet certain standards prior to distribution. The primary purpose of the standards is to prevent the exploitation of students by individuals or groups.

Cross References: Policy 2340 Religious-Related Activities and Practices
Policy 3220 Freedom of Expression

Management Resources:
Policy News, April 2005 Distribution of Materials
Distribution of Materials

Individuals seeking to distribute information in schools will submit to the superintendent a statement of the recreational or educational value to students.

Dissemination of the information does not reflect the district’s endorsement or sponsorship of the activity. The group or individual making the request to have materials distributed may be asked to add the statement: “The district does not sponsor or endorse this event/information and the district assumes no responsibility for it. In consideration of the privilege to distribute materials, the Washougal School District will be held harmless from any cause of action filed in any court or administrative tribunal arising out of the distribution of these materials, including costs, attorney’s fees and judgments or awards.”

The district or the school will not distribute materials that:

A. Are obscene, lewd, or vulgar;
B. Are libelous;
C. Contain language that is intimidating, demeaning, harassing or threatening on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital or veteran status, including, but not limited to, racial, sexual, or ethnic slurs;
D. Promote commercial enterprises;
E. Promote the violation of existing laws, regulation or ordinances, or official school policy, rules or regulations; or
F. Proselytize or disparage religious beliefs.

The Superintendent’s Office will review and determine whether the materials are approved for distribution to students and families. The superintendent will communicate to schools if approved information requires distribution to students and/or parents. If district distribution is not required, the building principal has the authority to decide whether or not approved information will be distributed at the school and the method of distribution to be used.

Some information may be approved for posting on school or district bulletin boards only.