

Policy

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS TO PUPILS AND STAFF

The Mount Laurel Township Board of Education shall ensure the careful review of any free or promotional materials that will be distributed by outside interest groups. Only materials that promote the district mission and student interests without advancing the special interests of any individual or group shall be considered for posting or distribution. Requests must be submitted in writing to the building principal and approved by the chief school administrator prior to being distributed. Printed materials, such as pamphlets, handbills, brochures, placards or posters may be approved for posting on the school district website or school property, or distribution when they:

- A. Address clearly understood educational needs;
- B. Are of obvious educational value and contain little or no advertising emphasis;
- C. Are consistent with the values, goals and objectives of the educational program;
- D. Supplement and enrich text and reference book materials;
- E. Support and do not undermine, either implicitly or explicitly, an existing curriculum and instruction message;
- F. Are timely and up to date;

Only materials from groups or individual representing non-profit or public and governmental agencies shall be considered for display or distribution. All materials must contain the statement, "This is not a school sponsored event/activity", and that the organization is a 501.C.3 corporation."

Prohibited Materials

Approval shall not be granted for posting on the school district website or school property, or distribution when such materials:

- A. Are inflammatory and/or designed to incite acts of violence;
- B. Attack or seek to generate hostility toward any ethnic or religious group;
- C. Are obscene or pornographic;
- D. Libel or defame the character of any person or persons;
- E. Advocate interference with the normal operations of public schools;
- F. Solicit memberships or funds for non-school organizations without approval of the chief school administrator or designee;
- G. Favor or oppose candidates for the board of education or other public office, or the defeat or adoption of board of education budgets and referenda or other public questions submitted to the electorate at any general, municipal or district election.

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS TO STUDENTS AND STAFF (continued)

Adopted: March 10, 1987
 Revised: April 28, 1998
 Revised: January 30, 2007
 Revised: October 22, 2007
 NJSBA Review/Update: June 2013
 Readopted: January 28, 2014

Key Words

Distribution of Materials, Promotional Materials, Printed Materials, Pamphlets, Handbills, Brochures, Placards, Posters

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1 General mandatory powers and duties
N.J.S.A. 18A:20-34 Use of schoolhouse and grounds for various purposes
N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34 Written approval required prior to acquisition of certain survey information from students
N.J.S.A. 18A:42-4 Distribution of literature as to candidacy, bond issues or public question to be submitted at election; prohibited
N.J.S.A. 19:34-6 Prohibited actions in polling place on election day, exception for simulated voting
N.J.S.A. 19:34-15 Electioneering within or about polling place; disorderly persons offense
N.J.S.A. 19:44A-19.1 Solicitation on state owned property prohibited; certain circumstances
N.J.S.A. 26:3D-55 et seq. New Jersey Smoke-Free Air Act
N.J.S.A. 18A:54-20 Powers of board (county vocational schools)
N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.2(a)4 Policies and procedures for school facility operation

20 U.S.C.A. 4071 – 4074 – Equal Access Act

34 CFR 98.1 - Pupil Protection Rights Amendment

Child Evangelism Fellowship of New Jersey vs. Stafford Township School District, No. 03-1101 (October 2004)

Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)

Possible

Cross References: *1100 Communication with the public
 1210 Cooperating with special interest groups
 *1230 School-connected organizations
 *1330 Use of school facilities
 5136 Fund-raising activities
 *6142.10 Internet safety and technology

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.