

Book	Policy Manual
Section	900 Community
Title	Nonschool Organizations/Groups/Individuals
Code	913
Status	Active
Adopted	February 11, 2020

NOTE: It is important to distinguish that Policy 913 only applies to requests from nonschool organizations, groups and individuals; in contrast, requests from students to personally distribute or post materials shall be governed by Policy 220. Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials.[1]

Purpose

The Board recognizes that nonschool organizations, groups and individuals may wish to utilize the district as a means to engage the school community in activities and/or to distribute or post nonschool materials. The Board directs that requests for such utilization from nonschool organizations, groups or individuals shall be governed by this policy.

Activities or school-related information and materials from nonschool organizations, groups and individuals that are integrated with or presented as a part of the district's curriculum or an approved school event or student organization are approved and governed by Board policies related to curriculum and student activities, and are not governed by this policy.[2][3][4]

Authority

The Board recognizes that the school community may benefit from receiving information from nonschool organizations, groups and individuals, provided the distribution and posting of such information does not interfere with the educational program of the schools. The district's primary responsibility shall be to maintain a safe and orderly school environment and to protect the rights of all members of the school community.

The Board prohibits advertisement or promotion by nonschool organizations, groups or individuals during instructional time or at school-sponsored locations or activities not otherwise open to nonschool organizations, groups or individuals.[5][6]

The Board directs that the review and consideration of any activities or nonschool materials requested under this policy shall not discriminate on the basis of content or viewpoint.

Definitions

Nonschool organizations, groups or individuals shall mean those entities that are not part of the school program, school-sponsored activities, or organized pursuant to the Pennsylvania School Code or Board policy. When employees or Board members act on behalf of a nonschool organization or group, or on their own behalf, this policy applies to them. Students are governed by a separate and distinct Board policy regarding student expression and distribution and posting of materials.[1]

Nonschool materials shall mean any printed, technological or written materials prepared by nonschool organizations, groups or individuals for posting or general distribution that are not prepared as a part of the curricular or approved extracurricular programs of the district, including but not limited to, fliers, invitations, announcements, pamphlets, posters, Internet bulletin boards, nonschool organization websites and the like.

Distribution shall mean issuing nonschool materials to others on school property or during school-sponsored events; placing upon desks, tables, on or in lockers; or engaging in any other manner of delivery of nonschool materials to others while on school property or during school functions.

Posting shall mean publicly displaying nonschool materials on school property or at school-sponsored events, including but not limited to affixing such materials to walls, doors, bulletin boards, easels, the outside of lockers, on district-sponsored websites, through other district-owned technology and the like.

Prohibited activities and materials shall mean activities and materials that:

1. Violate federal, state or local laws, Board policy or district rules or regulations.
2. Are libelous, defamatory, obscene, lewd, vulgar or profane.
3. Advocate the use or advertise the availability of any substance or material that may reasonably be believed to constitute a direct and serious danger to the health or welfare of students, such as tobacco/nicotine, alcohol or illegal drugs.
4. Incite violence, advocate use of force or threaten serious harm to the school or community.

5. Are likely to or do materially or substantially interfere with the educational process, such as school activities, school work, or discipline, as well as safety and order on school property or at school functions.
6. Interfere with, or advocate interference with, the rights of any individual or the safe and orderly operation of the schools and their programs.
7. Violate written district administrative regulations or procedures on time, place and manner for posting and distribution of otherwise protected expression.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Guidelines

Nonschool Materials

The Board requires that nonschool organizations, groups or individuals who wish to distribute or post nonschool materials on school property shall submit them to the building principal. The building principal shall inform the Superintendent or designee of requests received from nonschool organizations, groups and individuals.

If approval is granted by the building principal, the nonschool organization, group or individual shall comply with Board policy and administrative regulations, and the district's time, manner and place restrictions for distribution and posting of materials.

Materials issued by nonschool organizations, groups or individuals shall not be distributed during instructional time or school-sponsored activities.

Nonschool Activities

Activities sponsored by nonschool organizations, groups or individuals shall not occur during instructional time or school-sponsored activities.

Requests by nonschool organizations, groups or individuals to invite or promote student participation in nonschool activities shall comply with Board policy and administrative regulations on distribution and posting of materials.

Fundraising

Fundraising by nonschool organizations, groups or individuals is prohibited on school property or in the name of the school.^[Z]

Where activities or materials otherwise comply with this policy and administrative regulations, fundraising activities may be announced.

Directory information for students or staff members will not be released to nonschool organizations, groups or individuals that seek this information for the purpose of fundraising.^[8]

Scholarships/Awards

The Board is appreciative of the generosity of organizations that offer scholarships or awards to deserving students; but, in accepting such offers, the Board directs that established criteria be observed.

No information, either academic or personal, shall be released from a student's record for the purpose of selecting a scholarship or award winner without the permission of the student who is eighteen (18), or the parents/guardians of a student who is younger, in accordance with the Board's policy on student records.^[8]

The scholarship or award, and any pertinent restrictions, shall be approved by the Board.

All pertinent information regarding the scholarship or award shall be submitted for review by the Superintendent or designee prior to the date on which it is to be presented.

Travel Services/Foreign Trips

Solicitation and sale of travel services for foreign trips to students may be permitted with the approval of the Board.

Sellers of travel services to students must meet the following criteria:

1. Belong to an association of certified sellers of travel.
2. Provide proof of insurance.
3. Submit references.
4. Provide proof of a performance bond.
5. Include in all information provided to students and parents/guardians that use of tobacco/nicotine, alcohol and controlled substances will be prohibited.

6. Include in all information provided to students and parents/guardians that the activity is not a school-sponsored event.

Legal

1. Pol. 220
2. Pol. 105
3. Pol. 122
4. Pol. 230
5. 24 P.S. 510
6. 24 P.S. 511
7. 24 P.S. 775
8. Pol. 216
- 24 P.S. 779
- Pol. 907