



POLICY #6.45

PROPAGANDIST OR PREJUDICIAL CONDUCT

PREAMBLE

Public schools serve a society which is increasingly characterized by ethnic, racial, and ideological diversity. The Board feels that in a democratic society freedom of expression must be preserved and that abuses of that freedom must be confronted when they penalize or otherwise inflict injury upon the person or reputation of another. Propagandist conduct shall be considered to be the utterance and/or dissemination of information and opinions which incite hatred because they are racially and/or ethnically derogatory. Prejudicial conduct shall be considered to be those acts of discrimination or prejudice which penalize persons because of their beliefs or principles. Individual rights and freedoms, it is expected, will be exercised in accordance with reasonable norms of social conduct.

POLICY

THE BOARD SUPPORTS THE RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS BOTH TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND TO RIGHT OF CHOICE. PROPAGANDIST OR PREJUDICIAL CONDUCT OR ANY CONDUCT IN THE SCHOOLS BY STAFF, STUDENTS, OR RESOURCE PERSONS, WHICH PROMOTES ANY CAUSE, IDEOLOGY, OR SET OF VALUES IN A MANNER LIKELY TO INCITE HATRED OR TO PENALIZE OR CAUSE INJURY TO PERSON OR REPUTATION SHALL BE DEEMED UNACCEPTABLE.

OBJECTIVES

1. To preserve individual rights and freedoms for all students in the school environment.
2. To maintain educational environments free from propagandist or prejudicial conduct.

REGULATIONS

1. Materials pertaining to religious, political, ethnic, or other values shall be essentially informational; they shall be disseminated or distributed in a manner governed by high standards of academic and professional ethics and conduct.
2. District and school staffs shall take appropriate individual and professional action to eliminate propagandist and prejudicial conduct.
3. Instances of alleged propagandist or prejudicial conduct shall be reported to the Superintendent.

4. In instances where the alleged propagandist or prejudicial conduct results in a dispute which cannot be resolved at the school level, the Superintendent shall convene a committee comprised of a teacher, a school administrator, and a resource person appropriate for the case concerned. The committee shall hear any student and staff reports on the situation and, if deemed advisable, investigate them further. It shall report its deliberations to the Superintendent for presentation to the Board.

5. Upon receipt of the committee's report, the Board shall act within its authority under the School Act in accordance with any relevant provision made in legislation and statutes.

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Date Adopted: 1981-11
Date(s)

Cross References: