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| **WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT** | **SECTION 10000** |

**10200 Student Rights and Responsibilities  
10230 Student Distribution and/or Posting of Material**

This Policy addresses student distribution and/or posting of material on school property, at a school-sponsored event, or during transit to or from school or a school-sponsored event. This Policy does not govern the distribution and/or posting of material by District employees, which is governed by Policy 7240. This Policy does not govern the distribution and/or posting of material by citizens or community organizations, which is governed by Policy 11110.

Definitions for Purposes of this Policy

Distribution – Any delivery of material to others on school property, during a school-sponsored event, or during transit to or from school or a school-sponsored event, including but not limited to, hand delivery, placing material upon desks, or placing material in lockers.

Posting – Any public displaying of material on school property, at a school-sponsored event, or during transit to or from school or a school-sponsored event, including but not limited to, affixing such material to walls, doors, bulletin boards, easels, or the outside of lockers.

Material - any printed or written material meant for posting or distribution to others, including but not limited to fliers, invitations, announcements, pamphlets, and posters.

Unprotected Student Expression

The District respects the right of students to express themselves in word or symbol and to distribute and post material in areas designated for posting as a part of expression, to the extent guaranteed by the Commonwealth and United States Constitutions. However, those Constitutions do not protect all expression; material/expression that falls outside that protection is referred to, in this Policy, as “unprotected.” The District reserves the right to limit and prohibit manifestations of unprotected student material/expression. It is not possible to define all such material/expression, but such unprotected material/expression will likely be that which:

1. Libels/defames any specific person or persons.
2. Advocates the use or advertises 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 persons or property.
3. Uses obscene, lewd, vulgar or profane language; whether verbal, written or symbolic.
4. Incites violence; advocates use of force; or encourages violation of federal, state or municipal law, or District policies, rules or regulations.
5. Is likely to or does materially or substantially interfere with the educational process, including school activities, school work, or discipline and order on school property or at school functions; threatens serious harm to the school or community; encourages unlawful activity; involves bullying (as defined as a part of Policy 10510); or interferes with another's rights.
6. Violates District requirements relative to advance approval or time, place and manner restrictions for otherwise protected expression.

7. Is not prepared or sponsored by the District or a District employee, but that students could reasonably believe is prepared or sponsored by the District or a District employee.

Distribution and/or Posting of Material

The distribution and/or posting of material shall require the prior approval of the building principal, and the building principal shall determine the appropriate time, place, and manner for distribution and/or posting.

All material sought to be distributed or posted pursuant to this Policy shall contain the following disclaimer:

“THE CONTENT OF THIS MATERIAL IS IN NO WAY AFFILIATED WITH; SPONSORED, ENDORSED OR ADVOCATED BY; OR ADMINISTERED BY THE WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT.”

Students who distribute or post printed material shall be responsible for clearing any litter that results from their activity and shall schedule the distribution and/or posting so that the students do not miss instructional time.

Discipline For Engaging In Unprotected Expression

Students who distribute or post material in violation of this Policy or who continue the manifestation of unprotected expression after a person in authority orders that they cease and desist shall be subject to disciplinary action as set forth in the Student Discipline Code (Policy 10510).

Adoption Date - April 13, 2015

Revision Date -

Review Date -

Legal Reference - 24 P.S. §5-510; 24 P.S. §5-511

- 22 Pa. Code §12.2; 22 Pa. Code §12.9

Cross Reference - Policy 10510, Policy 11110, Policy 7240