

**DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS**

**General:** Subject to the approval of the Superintendent, the District may allow the distribution of literature or the posting of notices in buildings which relate to school activities, which are informational materials, or which relate to employment opportunities, community events, or cultural activities. The District hereby creates a limited open forum in which private persons or entities may utilize District facilities for the distribution of written materials according to the procedures and criteria set forth below. However, except as otherwise provided for community-based youth-related activities described below, no materials shall be distributed in the District's elementary schools. The provisions of this policy do not apply to the distribution of official school publications, such as yearbooks or student newspapers. This policy shall apply to the distribution of non-school publications and materials by students.

**Materials Not Allowed To Be Distributed:** The District shall not allow the distribution of materials which:

1. depict tobacco products, alcohol products (including beer), drugs, or drug-related paraphernalia or products;
2. depict sex or sexual activity, or which are lewd, indecent, vulgar, obscene, or pornographic as defined by prevailing community standards related to minors;
3. attack ethnic, religious, or racial groups (i.e., "hate" material);
4. promote hostility, disorder, or violence;
5. promote, endorse, or oppose any political candidate, beliefs, party, or issues;
6. violate any applicable copyright laws;
7. invade the privacy of others;
8. promote illegal activities for minors;
9. are defamatory, libelous, misleading, or false;
10. are not age-appropriate; and
11. promote discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, handicap, disability, age, or gender.

**Distribution Procedure:** All materials sought to be distributed to students, other than materials regarding community-based youth-related activities, shall be submitted to the Superintendent and shall indicate at which school the material is sought to be distributed. Material which is acceptable for distribution shall be distributed on a table to be set up in a hallway or other common area of the specified school site. The person or entity distributing the material shall be responsible for delivering the material to be distributed, for placing it on the table, and for removing any remaining material at the request of the District. Persons who deliver and/or place the material for distribution shall not communicate with any person while on school property for the purpose of soliciting, encouraging, or pressuring such person to take such materials and shall refrain from commenting about or discussing with students the material being distributed. Teachers, principals, or other school employees or agents shall neither be involved in the distribution of material nor

communicate with any person on school property for the purpose of soliciting, encouraging, or pressuring any person to take such materials. The District shall not make any announcements or provide any publicity as to the distribution.

**Violation of Policy:** Any person who violates the provisions of this policy may be prohibited from further distribution, and the District may prohibit the distribution of materials sought to be distributed by any person who violates this provision.

**Youth-Related Activities:** Those persons or entities which provide community-based youth-related activities, including but not limited to, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, 4-H, Little League, and YMCA/YWCA, shall be allowed to distribute materials to students, in a designated manner, in the elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools of the District at any time determined appropriate by the principal of each school. Material to be distributed by community-based youth-related activities shall be reviewed by the principal of each school to determine that it regards a community-based youth-related activity and is appropriate for the age group to which it will be distributed.

**Disclaimer Sign Required:** Any material distribution point shall contain a statement which provides as follows:

These materials are neither sponsored by nor endorsed by the Bethany Public Schools, the Bethany Board of Education, its agents, or its employees. The views and the information contained in the materials do not reflect the approval or disapproval of the Board or the School District and its administration.

**Donation of Educational Materials:** This policy shall not apply to library and educational materials which are offered for donation and accepted by the District's administration for instructional use.