

DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION/MATERIALS

The Martinsville City School Board seeks to minimize intrusions on the time of students and employees by communications from sources other than the school division. The Division Superintendent, or his/her designee, must approve, in advance, any materials sought to be distributed or made available by non-school organizations, including parent-teacher organizations and booster clubs. Approval will be granted only for materials from governmental organizations and nonprofit community organizations regarding activities related to the educational mission of the Martinsville City School Division.

Approval will not be given for materials which

- are likely to cause substantial disruption of, or a material interference with, school activities;
- endorse or encourage the use of alcohol, tobacco, electronic cigarettes or any illegal substance or action;
- endorse or encourage any violation of the Standards of Student Conduct (see Policy JFC-R); or
- are obscene, pornographic, or defamatory.

Materials from nonprofit community organizations approved for distribution must clearly indicate their source and must include the following statement: “These materials and the activity described herein, are not sponsored or endorsed by the Martinsville City School Board.”

The Superintendent, by regulation, will establish the time, place, and manner of distribution of approved materials. No distribution will be permitted during class time.

Political Communications

Students shall not be required to convey or deliver any material that advocates (1) the election or defeat of any candidate; (2) the passage or defeat of any referendum question; or (3) the passage or defeat of any matter pending before a local school board, local governing body, the General Assembly or Congress.

This policy shall not be construed to prohibit the discussion or use of political or issue-oriented materials as part of classroom discussions or projects.

Adopted: August 4, 1994
Revised: July 25, 1995
Revised: July 11, 1996
Revised: June 8, 2000
Revised: May 14, 2007
Restated: December 10, 2012
Revised: December 8, 2014

Legal Refs.: U. S. Constitution amend. I

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Maryland, Inc. v. Montgomery County Public Schools, 457 F.3d 376 (4th Cir. 2006)

Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-70, 22.1-78, 22.1-79.3, 22.1-79.5, 22.1-131, 22.1-279.6, and 22.1-293(B-D)

Cross Refs.: JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct
KFB Administration of Surveys and Questionnaires
KG Community Use of School Facilities
KQ Commercial, Promotional, and Corporate Sponsorships and Partnerships