



POLICY

**Haddonfield
Board of Education**

STUDENTS

5721/Page 1 of 1
Independent Publications

5721 INDEPENDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Board of Education respects the right of pupils to express themselves in written word or picture, or video image or computer generated illustrations, and to distribute printed materials as part of that expression; at the same time, the Board recognizes that the exercise of that right is limited by the rights of other members of the school community.

For the purposes of this policy, “printed materials” include any written or printed cards, letters, circulars, books, pamphlets, notices, newspapers, and similar materials but do not include any publication that is sponsored by this Board.

Certain printed materials are not protected by a pupil’s right of free expression because they violate the rights of others. The Board may identify and prohibit the distribution on school premises of printed materials that are prejudicial to an ethnic, national, religious, or racial group or to either gender; libel any person or persons; seek to establish the supremacy of a particular religious denomination, sect, or point of view over any other; advocate the use or advertise the availability of any substance or material that constitutes a direct and substantial danger to the health of pupils; contain obscenity or material otherwise deemed to be harmful to impressionable pupils; incite violence, advocate the use of force, or urge the violation of law or school regulations; advertise goods or services for the benefit of profitmaking organizations; fail to identify the student responsible for distribution and the agent responsible for reproduction; solicit funds for nonschool organizations when such solicitations have not been approved by the Board; or promote, favor, or oppose any candidate for election to the Board or the adoption of any bond issue, proposal, or questions submitted at any election.

The Board requires that the distribution of printed material take place only at the places and during the times established by rule in order not to disrupt the orderly operation of the educational program.

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N. J. S. A. 18A: 42 - 4

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REGULATION

STUDENTS

**Haddonfield
Board of Education**

R 5721/ Page 1 of 1
Distribution of Independent Publications

R 5721 DISTRIBUTION OF INDEPENDENT PUBLICATIONS

A. Definition

“Independent publications” are written or printed cards, letters, circulars, books, pamphlets, notices, newspapers, and other documents prepared and distributed by students, independent of any curricular or co-curricular activity sponsored by the Board of Education.

B. Distribution

1. Independent publications may be distributed on school premises only by the students enrolled in that school.
2. Distribution may be conducted during periods of time when the activity will not interrupt the instructional program or interfere with an exercise necessary for student safety, such as a fire drill.
3. Distribution may be conducted in places in which the activity will not obstruct the passage of persons, cause a safety hazard, or interfere with the orderly operation of the school.
4. The Principal will establish, in consultation with recognized student organizations, rules setting specific times and places for the distribution of independent publications on the school premises.

C. Littering

1. Distribution will be conducted in a manner that reduces the possibility of litter.
2. Students who distribute independent publications are responsible for policing the area in which the distribution takes place and assuring that all litter is promptly removed.

D. Enforcement

1. The Principal will enforce these regulations and will determine whether distribution violates the standards set forth in paragraph B2 and paragraph B3.
2. A decision of the Principal may be appealed to the Superintendent.