

DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION/MATERIALS

The Alexandria City School Board (Board) seeks to minimize intrusions on the time of students and employees by communications from sources other than the school division. The Board permits the printed and electronic distribution of information or materials when such information or materials are prepared and/or sponsored by:

- the school;
- parent-teacher organizations;
- booster clubs;
- a government organization;
- official Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) partners in accordance with Policy KQ;
- official City partners and nonprofit organizations who promote the general public interest and the educational welfare of the students; and
- patriotic organizations and youth groups as designated under federal and State law and as listed in Regulation KG-R.

Distribution requests from schools, parent-teacher organizations or booster clubs must be approved by the school principal. Any requests from organizations other than these must be reviewed and approved by the Office of Communications for compliance with Policy KM. Activities described within such information or materials must be related to the educational mission of ACPS. In accordance with federal and State law, patriotic organizations and youth groups may distribute materials that encourage participation in such organizations and their activities.

The Board will not permit distribution of information or materials that:

- are likely to cause substantial disruption of, or a material interference with, school classes; classwork or activities, or the orderly operation of the school;
- promotes discrimination of characteristics protected by state or federal law (“protected status/characteristic”);
- would create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts;
- violate school policies, regulations, or the privacy rights of others;
- endorse or encourage the use of alcohol, tobacco, electronic cigarettes or any illegal substance or action;
- endorse or encourage any violation of the Student Code of Conduct (see Policy JFC-R);
- are libelous, slanderous, or defamatory under State law;
- are obscene or pornographic, or defamatory;
- result in financial gain for a third party other than the organizations exempted above; or
- appear to be endorsed by ACPS or are not clearly distinguishable as separate from ACPS-generated materials, except for materials developed as part of official ACPS partnerships.

The Superintendent, by regulation, will establish the time, place, and manner of distribution of permitted materials. Other than materials deemed appropriate by the school, no distribution of printed materials will be allowed during instructional time.

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Political Communications

In accordance with Policies GBG/KE and KJ, no information or materials may be distributed that advocate:

- the election or defeat of any candidate;
- the passage or defeat of any referendum question; or
- the passage or defeat of any matter pending before a local school board, local governing body, the General Assembly, or Congress. This does not apply to political meetings or rallies held on school grounds through a community use agreement under Policy KG.

Students are not 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.

When space is available, candidates may use school facilities as permitted by Board Policy KG and Regulation KG-R governing the use of school facilities. No candidate for election to the Board, including current Board members, may promote themselves or their campaign on ACPS media platforms.

Election Day distribution of political materials on school grounds is regulated by the Alexandria Electoral Board.

This policy shall not be construed to prohibit the discussion or use of political or issue-oriented materials or information as part of classroom discussion or projects, or the election of student government.

Adopted: November 21, 1996
 Amended: December 16, 2004
 Amended: April 6, 2006
 Amended: May 23, 2007
 Amended: June 23, 2016
 Amended: March 7, 2024

Legal Refs.: U.S. Constitution, amend. I.
 36 U.S.C. Subtitle II, Part B

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

Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, sections 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

92		Acts 2016 c. 647
93		
94	Cross Refs.:	GB Nondiscrimination in Employment
95		GBG/KE Staff Participation in Political Activities and School Board
96		Election Campaigns
97		JB Nondiscrimination in Education
98		JFC Student Conduct
99		KF-R Regulations for Distribution of Information/Materials in
100		Schools
101		KFB Administration of Surveys and Questionnaires
102		KG Community Use of School Facilities
103		KG-R Community Use of School Facilities Regulations and
104		Application
105		KJ Advertising in the Schools
106		KM Relations with Community Organizations
107		KMA Relations with Parent Organizations
108		KQ Commercial, Promotional, and Corporate Sponsorships and
109		Partnerships