

Think First

JEA
press rights
commission

Free expression
through
responsible
journalism

CANTON, OHIO, STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Professional Development Plan

The Board expects the adviser to include in his/her Individual Professional Development Plan an update of teacher/adviser training in a certified college journalism and mass communications program or a program presented by professionals in the field of journalism and mass communications.

Process for Administrative Concerns:

If the administration is considering prior review for journalistic concerns ONLY (“journalistic concerns” do not include the following public relations, comfort, tastes, financial contribution, embarrassment), it will ask for a meeting with the staff and adviser of the school publication to outline those concerns. To preclude undue pressure on a student editor, this discussion will not occur in a one-on-one setting, but will be presented to the journalism class and/or newspaper staff so that the discussion becomes, itself, of educational value to the students involved and provides the entire class or staff the advantage of hearing all pertinent sides.

If the administrator chooses to exercise prior review, he/she will, in writing, notify the editor as to which story, photo, graphic, art, etc. he/she intends to review and the related concerns. The administrator will have 24 hours to review the item and return, in writing his/her concerns about the item. This will be reviewed by the editor and staff, which will have the option of acting or not acting on the concerns. A discussion between the administrator and the editor and publication staff and/or journalism class is advisable, again for its educational value.

Student Contract

Legal and financial responsibility regarding business and content matters of the publication will rest with the student staff. The student staff, under the guidance of the adviser-teacher, will prepare a contract that spells out this fact and other responsibilities of student staff members. Each prospective student staff member and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign the contract before the student can participate in the publication.

The student editors will also adopt before the first publication each year a mission statement that explains the objectives of the publication and the standards that will govern the publication’s relationship with its audience. The mission statement will appear in each edition of the publication.



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Materials were produced for this Web site by the Journalism Education Association (<http://jeapressrights.org>) and the Center for Scholastic Journalism <http://jmc.kent.edu/csaj>).

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