

**PELHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY**  
**JICBE – DISTRIBUTION OF NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED MATERIALS**

*Category: Optional*

**I. Purpose**

The purpose of this Policy is to protect the exercise of students' free speech rights while balancing those rights against the educational objectives and responsibilities of the School District.

**II. General Statement of Policy**

A. The School District recognizes that students have the right to express themselves on school property.

B. To protect First Amendment rights, while at the same time preserving the integrity of the educational objectives and responsibilities of the School District, the School Board adopts the following regulations and procedures.

**III. Definitions**

A. "Distribution" means circulation or dissemination of material by means of offering free copies, selling or offering copies for sale, accepting donations for copies, or posting or displaying material, or placing material in book bags, backpacks, or other items belonging to students.

B. "Non-school-sponsored material" includes all materials or objects not funded, sponsored, or authorized by the school or School District intended for distribution. (Examples of non-school sponsored materials include, but are not limited to, leaflets, brochures, flyers, posters and underground newspapers.)

**IV. Guidelines**

A. Students of the School District have the right to distribute, at reasonable times and places as set forth in this Policy, and in a reasonable manner, non-school-sponsored material.

**V. Distribution of Non-school sponsored materials (see III. Definition)**

A. Students shall not distribute materials that are libelous, slanderous, obscene, advocate illegal activities, infringe on copyrighted material, or otherwise cause substantial disruption to school activities and functions.

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***District Policy History:***

*Adopted: September 27, 2006*

*Revised: June 17, 2022*