

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; or
- result in financial gain for a third party other than the organizations exempted above.

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.

Political Communications

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

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

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

59
60 When space is available, candidates may use school facilities as permitted by Board Policy KG
61 and Regulation KG-R governing the use of school facilities. No candidate for election to the
62 Board, including current Board members, may promote themselves or their campaign on ACPS
63 media platforms.

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

67
68 This policy shall not be construed to prohibit the discussion or use of political or issue-oriented
69 materials or information as part of classroom discussion or projects, or the election of student
70 government.

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72 **ACPS Logo Usage**

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74 Unless explicitly permitted through partnership or other agreements, all distributed material not
75 originating from the school should be clearly marked with the originating organization and should
76 be clearly distinguishable as separate from ACPS generated materials.

- 77
- 78 Adopted: November 21, 1996
- 79 Amended: December 16, 2004
- 80 Amended: April 6, 2006
- 81 Amended: May 23, 2007
- 82 Amended: June 23, 2016

- 83
- 84 Legal Refs.: U.S. Constitution, amend. I.
- 85 36 U.S.C. Subtitle II, Part B
- 86
- 87 *Child Evangelism Fellowship of Maryland, Inc. v. Montgomery County*
- 88 *Public Schools*, 457 F.3d 376 (4th Cir. 2006)
- 89
- 90 Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, sections 22.1-70, 22.1-78,
- 91 22.1-79.3, 22.1-79.5, 22.1-131, 22.1-279.6 and, 22.1-293
- 92

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

DRAFT

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Political Communications

Commented [1]: For those keeping score, this is based on Option 1 of the VSBA model policy.

Commented [2]: struggling with the recent connotations of what this word represents. Is this model policy wording?

Commented [MS3R2]: This is code

Commented [4]: Some, but not all are in the model policy.

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- the election or defeat of any candidate;
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Commented [5]: From the model policy.

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ACPS Logo Usage

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Commented [6]: Just some additional internal notes from experience. For example, we have an official partnership with a literacy tutoring group...that group is having an event. They want us to be on the flyer for it as a "supporter" and our work is aligned with the event. Usually we then ask ourselves, are we a supporter? I ask the department lead, etc. Then I ask, are they selling anything? If not, we move to are we actually participating in the event? All to say, they may have a partnership, but we actually confirm some things before allowing.

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94 22.1-79.3, 22.1-79.5, 22.1-131, 22.1-279.6 and, 22.1-293 ~~(B-D)~~

95
96 Virginia Acts 2016 of Assembly, Chapter c. 647 (effective 7/1/16)

97
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99 GBG/KE Staff Participation in Political Activities and School Board
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103 JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct
104 KBE Internet Privacy
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114 KQ Commercial, Promotional, and Corporate Sponsorships and
115 Partnerships