

NORTH RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT #200

BOARD POLICY

NO. 3220

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

A. Right

1. Students are entitled to express their personal opinions in a lawful and orderly manner.
2. Students are encouraged to express responsible personal opinions by participating in the writing of material for school publications.
3. Students may refuse to participate in patriotic exercises contrary to their religious beliefs.

B. Responsibilities

1. Symbolic and actual freedom of expression shall not interfere with the freedom of others to express themselves. The use of profane or obscene language and threats of harm to persons or property is prohibited.
2. Willful disobedience, open defiance of a teacher or school official's authority, may be sufficient cause for discipline or suspension.
3. Any publication sponsored or in any way funded by the school shall be known as a school publication as opposed to a student publication.
4. Libelous and profane or obscene matters are prohibited from all publications. The free speech right outline in the First Amendment must be balanced against the State's duty to educate pupils in a decent and orderly fashion and to protect the rights of all students.

Adopted: September 11, 1991