

## **Community Relations**

### **Distribution and Display of Community Flyers and Posters**

**Flyers:** The Valley View Community Unit School District 365U will not distribute community flyers and posters from organizations or individuals for students to take home. This Policy does not prohibit the District from sending home flyers for school programs of the District or from recognized parent organizations and booster clubs pursuant to Board Policy 8:90, subject to Superintendent approval to ensure that the flyers proposed to be sent home by such organizations would not disrupt the educational process; violate the rights of others, including material that is defamatory; invade the privacy of others; conflict with the basic educational mission of the District; infringe on a trademark or copyright; or be obscene, vulgar, lewd, indecent, or contains indecent and vulgar language..

**Posters:** Community, educational, charitable, or recreational organizations, including other governmental entities, may ask the Superintendent for permission to display posters in the area(s) reserved for community posters. The posters subject to a request must be student-oriented and have the sponsoring organization's name prominently displayed. Permission will be denied to post any material that would: disrupt the educational process; violate the rights of others, including material that is defamatory; invades the privacy of others; infringes on a trademark or copyright; conflicts with the basic educational mission of the District; or is obscene, vulgar, lewd, indecent, or contains indecent and vulgar language. No commercial publications shall be posted unless their purpose is to further a school activity, such as graduation, class pictures, or class rings. No information from candidates for non-students' elective office shall be posted on school property, except those in compliance with Illinois law on election day at school or District sites serving as polling places. If permission is granted to display a poster, the organization must arrange to have copies of the poster delivered to the school. An organization may appeal the Superintendent's decision to deny permission to display a poster in the area(s) reserved for community posters to the School Board by notifying the Building Principal or Superintendent, in writing, within 14 days of the Superintendent's decision. The Board or a committee of the Board shall meet to review the Superintendent's decision within 14 days of the Superintendent's decision and render a decision (if the Board) or a recommendation (if a committee). If the committee of the Board makes a recommendation, the full Board shall review the recommendation of the committee at its next regularly scheduled Board meeting and issue a decision.

**Electronic Bulletin Board:** The District will share approved announcements from community, educational, charitable, or recreational organizations, including other governmental entities, so long as the announcements are pertinent to students' interests or involvement. An organization seeking to post an announcement on the District's Electronic Bulletin Board shall

ask the Superintendent for permission to display its announcement on the Electronic Bulletin Board. The announcement must have the sponsoring organization's name prominently displayed. Permission will be denied to post any material that would: disrupt the educational process; violate the rights of others, including material that is defamatory; invade the privacy of others; infringe on a trademark or copyright; conflict with the basic educational mission of the District; is obscene, vulgar, lewd, indecent, or contain indecent and vulgar language; or contain a link to a website that contains material that violates the above. No commercial announcements shall be posted unless their purpose is to further a school activity, such as graduation, class pictures, or class rings. No information from candidates for non-students' elective office shall be posted, except those in compliance with Illinois law on election day at school or District sites serving as polling places. If permission is granted to display an announcement on the District's Electronic Bulletin Board, the organization must arrange to have the announcement sent to the Superintendent. An organization may appeal the Superintendent's decision to deny permission to place an announcement on the Electronic Bulletin Board to the School Board by notifying the Superintendent, in writing, within 14 days of the Superintendent's decision. The Board or a committee of the Board shall meet to review the Superintendent's decision within 14 days of the Superintendent's decision and render a decision (if the Board) or a recommendation (if a committee). If the committee of the Board makes a recommendation, the full Board shall review the recommendation of the committee at its next regularly scheduled Board meeting and issue a decision.

Materials are posted on the Electronic Bulletin Board as a community service and are for informational purposes only. The District shall not be liable in any way for any material or activity posted on its Electronic Bulletin Board by a community, educational, charitable, or recreational organization, including another governmental entity. The District does not necessarily endorse any of the events or groups whose materials are posted on the Electronic Bulletin Board.

**Criteria for submitting materials for the Electronic Bulletin Board for approval:**

1. Requests shall be made:
  - a. Through the downloadable form on the District's web site (preferable);
  - b. Via email (at the time of passage of this revised Policy, the email address is [pr@vvsd.org](mailto:pr@vvsd.org) (preferable);
  - c. Dropped off at the Administration Center, 755 Dallhart Avenue, in Romeoville, Illinois.

- d. Mailed to the Administrative Center, 755 Dallhart Avenue, Romeoville, IL 60446.
- e. Via facsimile (at the time of passage of this revised Policy, the facsimile number is 815-886-7294).
- 2. Requests must be submitted no less than 10 days prior to the requested posting date on the District’s website.
- 3. Requests must include a readable copy of the material sought to be posted;
- 4. The District prefers that organizations limit their requests to no more than one per month;
- 5. Applicants will be notified of approval or denial of requests either by email, facsimile, or by mail.

LEGAL REF.: Child Evangelism Fellowship of New Jersey, Inc. v. Stafford Township School District, 386 F.3d 589 (3d Cir. 2004).  
Hills v. Scottsdale Unified School Dist., 329 F.3d 1044 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2003).  
Child Evangelism Fellowship v. Montgomery County, 373 F.3d 589 (4<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2004).  
Berger v. Rensselaer Central School Corp., 982 F.2d 1160 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1993).  
Diloretto v. Downey Unified School Dist., 196 F.3d 958 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999).  
Hedges v. Wauconda Community Unit School Dist. No. 18, 9 F.3d 5 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1993).  
Lamb’s Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School Dist., 113 S.Ct. 2141 (1993).  
Sherman v. Community Consolidated School Dist. 21, 8 F.3d 1160 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1993).

CROSS REF.: 7:310R (Student Distribution of Non-School Sponsored Written Material on School Grounds),7:325 (Student Fund-Raising Activities), 7:330 (Student’s Use of Buildings – Equal Access), 8:10 (Community Relations), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

Approved: August 25, 1997

Amended: January 11, 1999

Amended: May 12, 2003

Amended: June 14, 2010