

**Linn Benton Lincoln  
Education Service District**

Code: **IB**  
Adopted: 7/8/98  
Readopted: 10/10/07  
Revised: 2/16/2022

## **Freedom of Expression**

The Board seeks to educate young people in the democratic tradition, to foster recognition of individual freedom and social responsibility and to inspire meaningful awareness of and respect for the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Students have a general right to freedom of expression within the school system. The ESD requires, however, that students exercise their rights fairly, responsibly and in a manner not disruptive to other individuals or to the educational process.

### **Freedom of Student Inquiry and Expression**

1. Generally, students and student organizations are free to examine and discuss questions of interest to them and to express opinions publicly and privately within the school system, provided such examination and expression is fair and responsible and is not disruptive to other individuals or to the educational process. Students may support or oppose causes by orderly means which do not disrupt other individuals or the operation of the school.

2. In the classroom, students are free to examine views offered in any course of study, provided such examination is expressed in a responsible manner.

### **Freedom of Association**

Students are free to organize associations to promote their common interests. Student organizations should be open to all students. Membership criteria may not exclude students on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, marital status, familial status, parental status, linguistic background, culture, socioeconomic status, capability, geographic location or sex. Each student organization must have a staff adviser to counsel and, when necessary, supervise students in the organization. All student organizations must submit to the school a statement of purpose, criteria for membership, rules and procedures. School administrators may establish reasonable rules and regulations governing the activity of student organizations.

**END OF POLICY**

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### **Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 174.100](#)  
[ORS 332.072](#)  
[ORS 339.880](#)  
[ORS 339.885](#)

[HB 3279 \(2007\)](#)  
[ORS 336.477](#)  
[OAR 581-021-0055](#)  
[OAR 581-021-0050](#)

[OAR 334.125\(7\)](#)  
[ORS 659.850](#)

Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 4071-4074 (2006)(2018).  
Westside Cmty. Bd. of Educ. v. Mergens, 496 U.S. 226 (1990).  
Hazelwood Sch. Dist. v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).  
U.S. CONST. amend. I; U.S. CONST. amend. XIV.  
OR. CONST., art. I, § 8.  
House Bill 3041 (2021)