

POLICY

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Related Entries: KA-RA

Responsible Office: OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS, DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION AND SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

DISTRIBUTION OF NON-SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

A. PURPOSE

To inform the community-at-large and Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS) staff about the criteria for displaying and distributing printed informational materials and announcements in schools, whether to be sent home via students, distributed electronically, or made available on display tables, racks, bulletin boards, or at open house or evening events.

B. ISSUE

The Board of Education of Anne Arundel County (Board) recognizes the need for an appropriate means to inform students and parents/guardians about school and community activities and events in a manner that neither unduly burdens school staff nor disrupts the learning environment. Approval of any such dissemination or display does not imply Board or AACPS endorsement of the organization or the information.

C. POSITION

1. Display and Distribution of Printed and Electronic Materials by AACPS, Governmental Agencies, PTAs, and Other Parent Organizations

The following organizations shall be permitted to distribute printed and electronic informational materials and announcements directly to students through take home folders, student backpacks, similar manner, or electronically; or display printed informational materials and announcements on any tables, racks, bulletin boards, or similar areas as designated by the school at any time during the school year:

- a. AACPS;
- b. Federal, State, or local governmental entities and departments;
- c. PTAs, PTSAs, PTOs, and PTSOs operating within AACPS;
- d. Athletic, band, and similar clubs directly affiliated with AACPS, and;

- e. The Education Foundation of Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

2. Display of Printed and Electronic Materials Provided by Others

- a. Other organizations and businesses doing business with schools and communities in Anne Arundel County shall be permitted to display, during the school year, printed informational materials and announcements on tables, racks, bulletin boards, or similar areas as may be designated by the school.
- b. Other organizations and businesses doing business with schools and communities in Anne Arundel County may be permitted to electronically display informational materials and announcements during the school year, as determined appropriate by the principal, appropriate supervisor, and the Office of Communications.
- c. Materials provided for display by such organizations or businesses shall include the disclaimer:

“These materials are neither sponsored nor endorsed by the Board of Education of Anne Arundel County, the Superintendent, or this school.”

- d. Materials provided for display by organizations and businesses must have the sponsoring organization’s or business’ name.

3. Primary and Election Day Materials

The distribution of flyers, posters, and handbills on school property in the context of electioneering on Primary or General Election Day shall be governed by Anne Arundel County, the State Board of Elections, and the Election Article.

D. IMPLEMENTATION

The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations to implement this policy.

Policy History: Adopted on 06/19/13; Revised 04/12/23; 02/04/26

Note Previous Policy History: Adopted on 03/01/72 and revised 12/06/89

Legal Reference: None