

# ALC Student Newspaper Guidelines

## Purpose of ALC Newspaper

- To teach student the rules of professional journalism while promoting creative expression.
- To provide the student body with a forum of open expression within boundaries established by the student newspaper guidelines.
- To enlighten the school community about events relevant to it.

## Principles of the ALC Newspaper

In order to uphold the guidelines of good journalism, the ALC Newspaper will strive to do the following:

- Be accurate.
- Be fair.
- Be timely.
- Be tasteful.
- Provide coverage that can't be found from other local sources.
- Set high standards for quality reporting, writing, editing, graphics and design.
- Emphasize school and local coverage while including state, national and world news.
- Be interesting, amusing, entertaining and surprising.
- Show courage and independence in faithfully reporting both good and bad news.
- Encourage and involve the community in school activities and efforts.
- Provide an opinion forum reflecting a wide variety of views.
- Recognize and cultivate the newspaper's role as a community historian.



## ALC Student Newspaper Guidelines - continued

### Responsibilities of the ALC Student Journalists:

- Shall adhere to professional journalistic standards and ethics.
- Shall adhere to the district's philosophy of education and its educational goals and objectives.
- Shall be open to student expression and shall be available to the student body and members of the community.
- Shall report and editorialize on events, ideas, or issues affecting the school, community, state, nation, and world.
- Shall report in a balanced, objective manner.
- Shall produce articles that contain proper sentence structure, grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- Shall know, understand and observe applicable laws regarding libel, slander, obscenity, privacy, and copyright.
- Shall refrain from publishing material that is sexually explicit, vulgar, lewd, libelous, offensive or obscene.
- Shall refrain from publish materials that promote or encourage student walkouts, sit-ins, boycotts or other activities that create a substantial interference with day-to-day school activities.



### Responsibilities of ALC Newspaper Advisers:

- Shall guide and direct student publications in a manner consistent with the district's educational goals and objectives.
- Shall review materials for violations of the student newspaper guidelines and work with students to correct those errors.
- Shall help students write in an accurate, responsible manner.
- Shall help students write with good form and style.
- Shall teach students the professional standards of journalism.
- Shall review and discuss standards of good taste as they instruct and guide the publication.