

Section I INSTRUCTION

IMC GUEST SPEAKERS IN SCHOOLS

The Board encourages school administrators and teachers to invite guest speakers when the speaker's program supports or supplements the curriculum and provides a learning experience appropriate to the grade level(s) of students.

The Board believes that it is important for students to have access to information, to appreciate the knowledge, experience and accomplishments of others, to be exposed to issues upon which there may be disagreement, and to learn to discriminate between facts and opinion, analyze and discuss different points of view and draw their own conclusions.

SPEAKERS IN THE CLASSROOM

Because guest speakers may have particular viewpoints and opinions, it is important that teachers have a clear understanding of the speaker's purpose, prepare students for the experience in advance and provide appropriate follow-up activities. Teachers should strive to provide a balance of viewpoints and opinions through discussion or other activities that allow for the presentation of opposing views. This may include, when practicable, the invitation of speakers with different points of view.

A staff member who wishes to invite a speaker must obtain the approval of the Director before doing so. Requests for speakers must be submitted at least one week in advance. The Director's decision will be final.

The teacher who has invited the speaker remains responsible for the supervision of students and must be present at all times when the speaker is in the classroom.

SPEAKERS AT SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

Administrators may invite or approve speakers for school assemblies when the experience is consistent with the objectives of this policy. Non-routine assemblies should be scheduled in a way that minimizes interruption of the instructional program. Whenever practicable, staff should be given advance notice of such assemblies at least five days in advance.

SPEAKER GUIDELINES

The Director may develop rules or guidelines for speaker conduct and decorum.

Profanity, vulgarity and the advocacy of violence, violation of the law, Board policies or school rules or promotion of use of tobacco, drugs or alcohol or other substances or items that are illegal for minors will not be permitted.

Cross Reference: IMBB – Exemption from Required Instruction

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Revised: _____

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