

## ACCEPTABLE LOCKER USE

**SCHOOL OFFICIALS MAY SEARCH LOCKERS AT ANY TIME AND WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE IN ORDER TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS OF USE AND OTHER SCHOOL POLICIES AND RULES AS PER BOARD POLICY 240-5.**

### **IMPORTANT FACTORS TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHEN A QUESTIONABLE LOCKER DÉCOR ISSUE ARISES:**

- Lockers belong to the school; they are not the private domain of students;
- The school includes younger aged and potentially impressionable students, visitors and parents.
- When locker doors are open, "locker décor" is visible to persons of all ages and gender.
- While it is recognized that many magazines used in the school for educational purposes also contain advertisements which violate the guidelines set out below, it is important to note that viewing these pages includes a level of choice not available when passing an open locker.
- The school has an added responsibility to convey social norms of acceptability for an institution of public education. These norms of acceptability are higher than those of an arcade, pool hall, movie theatre, etc.

### **SCHOOL RESPONSE TO ISSUE OF APPROPRIATE LOCKER DÉCOR:**

- Teachers will continue to assume responsibility of educating their students regarding the inappropriate depictions and displays of the human body by advertising, i.e. subliminal and overt messages and consequential damage to self-esteem, eating disorders, etc. This form of "consumer awareness" will take place in a variety of different classes.
- Teachers will apply the following guidelines for appropriateness in dealing with student locker displays.

### **GUIDELINES OF "APPROPRIATENESS" FOR LOCKER DÉCOR**

- All persons in the picture/photo/poster must be wearing clothing. The general rule of thumb regarding apparel is "the swimwear one would normally expect to see at a public beach or public swimming pool".
- Exceptions to the above:
  - if the apparel is obviously underwear;
  - if the subject(s) is/are wearing clothing but there is an obvious implication of a sexual act about to occur or just completed;
  - if the caption includes an obvious implication of a sexual act about to occur or just completed.
- The same guidelines as those described in the school's dress code for T-shirts will also apply. Locker displays of any kind which include the following are considered inappropriate: swearing, obscenities, obvious sexual innuendo, depiction or advertisement of drugs or alcohol.