

# 2022 State Journalism Championship



## **#3 Newspaper Editorial Cartooning**

**Time Limit – 1:15**

**Directions:** You are to create an editorial cartoon by hand or digitally on one of the provided editorial articles. There is no standard size for the cartoon; however, it should not exceed 8 ½” by 11”. You should have your own blank paper, pencils, pens, or markers but no additional materials such as newspapers, magazines, writing guides, etc. will be allowed in the contest room. Entries will be evaluated on quality, expression, and approach.

**When you are finished:**

1. **Print your name and school name on the back of the paper.**
2. **If you created a digitally based cartoon, please type your name and school on the top right of the document. Save your document as a pdf with the file name: your first and last name\_editorial cartoon\_class (for example: SusieSmith\_editorialcartoon\_ClassA).**
3. **Notify the proctor when finished.**

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### **EDITORIAL/OPPOSING**

The Richmond Board of Education will be hearing a proposal from principal Kenneth Cruz to no longer permit backpacks inside the school building.

The proposed move is unfair to students.

Students need backpacks to carry the essential materials needed throughout a school day. Forcing students to loosely carry materials will lead to increased lost and stolen items within the school building. Students will also consistently leave class to retrieve forgotten materials necessary for learning. The classroom will have increased distractions, resulting in less effective learning.

If Principal Cruz is worried about distractions being brought into a classroom via backpacks, Principal Cruz can communicate his expectations and the consequences for those students who do not follow the rules.

Metal detectors could be added at all student entrances of the building. This would be a more effective alternative to increasing safety within the school building.

Principal Cruz’s proposal allows the actions of a few to prohibit all students from using backpacks. The Board of Education should not support this proposal.

### **EDITORIAL/SUPPORTIVE**

The Richmond Board of Education will be hearing a proposal from principal Kenneth Cruz to no longer permit backpacks inside the school building.

The proposed move will decrease distractions for students and increase safety inside the school.

Backpacks allow students to bring unnecessary distractions (cell phones, personal tablets, video games, etc.) into the classroom. Disallowing backpacks will decrease the number of distractions in a classroom setting. Teachers will be able to focus more time on teaching and less time on keeping students on task. Essential materials can be carried to each class and returned to a student’s locker between classes.

The safety of all Richmond students and staff is paramount and removing backpacks from the building increases safety for everyone.

Purchasing metal detectors is an unnecessary cost to the school district, while removing backpacks is a cost savings for families.

Principal Cruz’s proposal promotes effective learning and school safety. The Richmond Board of Education should support this proposal.