Pursuant to Education Code Section 76120, the Board of Trustees of Rio Hondo Community College District hereby adopts the following rules and regulations relating to the freedom of expression by students in the Rio Hondo Community College District.

The El Paisano is a laboratory publication of the college’s journalism curriculum. The primary purpose of the El Paisano is to provide a vehicle to train students for careers in professional journalism. As an outgrowth of the journalism program, the El Paisano serves the entire college by printing the news, providing a fair forum for pertinent comment and criticism, providing wise counsel in its editorials, and, in general, providing for student expression as guaranteed in the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

While in no way interfering with such rights of student expression as are guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the Board of Trustees expresses its desire that the El Paisano also serve the entire college by keeping in mind the following opening passages from the “Criteria of a Good Newspaper” as promulgated by the Associated Press Managing Editors Association:

“A good newspaper prints the important news and provides the information, comment, and guidance that is most useful to its readers.”

“By reflecting the total image of its own community in its news coverage and by providing wise counsel in its editorials, a good newspaper becomes a public conscience. It also must be lively, imaginative, and original; it must have a sense of humor, and the power to arouse keen interest.”

“Finally, a good newspaper should be guided in the publication of all material by a concern for truth, the hallmark of freedom, by concern for human decency and human betterment and by a respect for the accepted standards of its own community.”