Names:

You will be assigned one of these scenarios to present to the class and show how your group would respond if you were the editors.

1. A student writes a column about how students should not have sex before marriage. To support that point, the columnist fills the story with statistics about how ineffective different birth control methods are. Another staffer is concerned the statistics come from biased sources and readers will be less likely use birth control.

2. A columnist has written a heated diatribe against wearing sweatpants to school and other fashion decisions that make people look “sloppy and low class.”

3. One staffer feels that a teacher has it out for him and that the teacher generally favors girls over boys in class. He wants to write a column exposing the teacher’s unfairness.

4. Half the starters of one sports team can’t play the beginning of the season due to failing grades. A staffer wants to write a column about how these players are letting down their team and the school.

5. A student has offered to write a column about what it is like to be in an abusive relationship. The student’s former partner is also a student at school.

6. The school district has made it harder for extracurricular groups to give money from fundraising to outside charity groups unless they get permission from the district before the money is raised and advertise where the money will go while fundraising. One teacher in charge of a group has complained about this policy to a staffer, who wants to write a column about how stupid this policy is.

7. A student wants to write a personal column about marijuana use focused on its drawbacks and benefits. The writer wants to be anonymous because much of the information is from personal experience with smoking marijuana.

8. A columnist wants to write about public perceptions of a very offensive word: its history, its usage, why people are so offended by it and how more education would defuse some of the negative feelings associated with it. The word is used many times in that column.

9. A staff member wants to write about spending the week in a psychiatric ward after a suicide attempt six months ago. Most people at school are not aware of this.