

Communications with Staff and Students**Board-Staff Communications**

- A. Staff Communication to the Board or Board Committees from administrators, supervisors, teachers, or other staff members shall be submitted through the Superintendent. This procedure shall not be construed as denying the right of employees to appeal to the Board from administrative decisions on important matters, provided that the Superintendent shall have been notified of the forthcoming appeal and that it is processed according to Board policy. Board meetings are public meetings, and as such they offer an excellent opportunity for staff to observe and participate first hand in the Board's deliberations on problems of staff concern.
- B. All official communications, policies, and directives of staff interest and concern will be communicated to staff members through the Superintendent, and the Superintendent will transmit all appropriate media to keep staff fully informed of the Board's problems, concerns, and actions.
- C. Staff and Board members share an interest in the school and education in general, and it is to be expected that when they meet at social affairs and other functions, they will informally discuss such matters as educational trends, issues, and innovations and general school District concerns. Individual Board members have no special authority excepting when they are convened as a legal meeting of the Board or are vested with special authority by Board action. Board of Education members are expected to avoid discussion of:
 - 1. matters that are, or have the potential of becoming, the subject of an executive session;
 - 2. information and data contained in personnel records protected by the Privacy Act.

Board-Student Communications

- A. Students, individually or as part of a group, are welcome to speak at Board meetings during Visitors Comments. Board communications to students are conducted through the Superintendent. Student representatives shall be able to attend and sit at all meetings of the Board and its permanent committees normally deemed open to the public. Student representatives, however, shall not have the power to speak as official representatives of the Board.

Visits to School

- B. Individual Board members interested in visiting the school or classrooms will make arrangements for visitations through the administrator of the school. Such visits shall be regarded as informal expressions of interest in school affairs and not as "inspections" or visits for supervisory or administrative purposes. Official visits by Board members will be conducted only under Board authorization and with the full knowledge of staff, including the Superintendent, building administrators and other supervisors.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes § 10-220

Bylaw adopted: February 10, 2016