
SECOND READING OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION:

Attached is the second reading of School Board policies:

- **IICA** – Field Trips and Special Events
- **IICC (KAA)** – Volunteers
- **IKB** – Extended Learning Activities
- **JFB** – Student Involvement in Decision Making
- **KA** – Community Engagement
- **KB** – Public Communications Program
- **KC** – Community Involvement in Decision Making
- **KM** – Relations with Community Organizations

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In January, 2004 the Oregon School Board Association performed an audit of the Beaverton School District Board policies. As a result of this audit, departments continue to work to reach compliance of the policies pertinent to their areas. Throughout the school year new policies and/or policy changes will be presented for your review.

RECOMMENDATION:

(12-184) It is recommended that the School Board adopt these policy changes.

FIELD TRIPS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

The District recognizes the value of special activities in the total curriculum and agrees that students and the community benefit ~~profit~~ from well ~~carefully~~ planned learning experiences outside of school.

Field trips and other student activities involving travel may be authorized by the Superintendent or delegated representative when such trips or activities contribute to ~~the achievement of desirable~~ educational goals. In planning and authorizing such trips, primary consideration will be given to educational values derived and the safety and welfare of the students involved.

END OF POLICY

Legal References:

ORS 332.107

ORS 336.183

ORS 339.155

OAR 581-022-1020

VOLUNTEERS**

The District expects and shall encourage families and community members to be active participants in our schools. They shall be welcomed, valued and connected to each other, school staff and what students are learning and doing in class.

It shall be the policy of the District to encourage the utilization of community volunteers in the schools for the primary purpose of enriching the educational opportunities for all students.

It is essential that we recruit and organize parent and community support in order to enrich the educational opportunities for all students.

The safety of students is paramount. Volunteers shall operate under the direction of a licensed staff member and shall be within sight or sound of a licensed staff member while working with students.

Any person authorized by the District for volunteer service into a position having direct, unsupervised contact with students, i.e. volunteer coaches, will be required to undergo an Oregon criminal records check.

The District reserves the right to place and remove volunteers from service in the District.

Parent/Teacher Organizations

The District encourages the establishment of associations of parents and teachers (i.e., to support volunteerism, (Community Engagement Committees, Parent Groups, Booster Clubs, Parent/Teacher Associations, Parent/Teacher Organizations) in each of the District's schools. The District urges the administrators and faculties of the schools to support, encourage and participate in the programs.

The Superintendent or designee ~~is instructed to~~ shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy and provide guidelines for the management of the community volunteer programs, recruitment of and training of volunteers and the training of professional staff in the optimal utilization of volunteers.

END OF POLICY

Legal References:

HYPERLINK "<http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/326.htm>" ORS 326.607

HYPERLINK "<http://landru.leg.state.or.us/ors/332.htm>" ORS 332.107

Cross-references:

Policy BCFAA – Community Engagement Committees

Policy GCDA/GDDA – Criminal Records Checks/Fingerprinting

Policy GDA – Educational Assistants

Policy KA – Community Engagement

EXTENDED LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

~~The Board believes in the concept of learning outside the classroom.~~ *It is important that parents, students and staff collaborate to support student learning at school and at home.*

~~Teachers are encouraged to look beyond the classroom for activities that extend learning skills beyond the classroom.~~ *The District shall provide information and support to families about how to help students at home with homework, planning and other activities.*

END OF POLICY

Cross-references:

Policy KA – Community Engagement

Policy KAA - Volunteers

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING

The ~~Board~~ District recognizes the value of student participation in decision making.

All Students will be encouraged to attend open school Board meetings and other venues where District and school matters are discussed.

In developing rules, regulations and arrangements for school system operation, the Superintendent will include at the planning stage, whenever feasible and appropriate, a representative of those students who will be affected by such provisions.

The Superintendent will establish procedures through which students can readily communicate their ideas and opinions regarding the operation of the schools.

END OF POLICY

Legal References:

ORS 332.107

Cross-references:

Policy KA – Community Engagement

Policy BCBA – Student Representatives to the Board

Policy BCF – Advisory Committees to the Board

Policy BDDH – Public Participation in Board Meetings

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The District believes that parent involvement and community engagement are critical in order to achieve maximum educational growth for each and every child and prepare them for lifelong learning. The District shall establish a culture and plan of best practices for parent involvement and community engagement in support of all children.

The District's plan shall address the following:

- Recruiting and organizing volunteerism and other support;
- Designing effective forms of communication about school programs and children's progress;
- Providing information and resources to families about how to help students at home with homework, planning and other activities;
- Collaborating with parents and students in school decisions and developing school leaders and representatives;
- Collaborating with community; strong and sustained engagement to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning and development.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy and review the effectiveness of the community engagement plan.

END OF POLICY

Cross-references:

Policy BCFAA – Community Engagement Committees

Policy IKB – Extended Learning Activities

Policy JFB – Student Involvement in Decision Making

Policy KAA – Volunteers

Policy KB – Public Communications Program

Policy KC – Community Involvement in Decision Making

Beaverton School District

Code: KB
Adopted: 11/28/88; 5/24/71
Readopted: 2/9/98
Orig. Code: 1110; 1310

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAM

Keeping Informed

~~Society has created public institutions to serve the best interests of its citizens. The schools exist for the primary purpose of providing educational services to their students. In performing their functions, the schools influence the lives of all persons in the district. Thus every attempt shall be made by the Board to represent the people in acting in the interests of their students. To this end Board members shall attempt to:~~

- ~~1. Keep themselves and the public informed regarding the policies and direction of the schools;~~
- ~~2. Provide the means for furnishing full and accurate information, together with interpretation and explanation, of the school plans and programs;~~
- ~~3. Provide citizens, individuals as well as groups, with opportunities to raise questions, express views, request changes in present programs and establishment of new programs and discuss school issues with the Board and the school staff.~~

The Board believes that public education can be improved, resulting in increased instructional benefits for students, by a strong communications program. This belief includes the following principles;

1. The communications program should be a planned, systematic, two-way process of communication between the District and its internal/external publics;
2. The communications program should be many multi-faceted and should include a variety of media to efficiently and effectively inform all citizens of the District;
3. Public engagement and communications, to be effective, must include a planned program with involvement and feedback;
4. Communications must be internal as well as external and must stress the dissemination of factual, objective and realistic data about the District;
5. Public communications must be dynamic and sensitive to change as determined by events and evaluation of the program.

Information Concerning Elections

The District shall use appropriate channels of communication to provide information concerning ~~propositions~~ funding measures to voters of the District prior to all district elections.

Studies and Reports

~~Superintendent's reports and citizen's committee reports to the Board which would directly affect the policy-making function of the Board shall be presented to the Board prior to being released to the public.~~

Participation by Students

~~The best possible community relations grow from superior teaching in the classroom. Enthusiastic students with serious intentions, well directed by outstanding and capable teachers, are certain to communicate with parents and other patrons of the schools. The Board believes this type of~~

~~communication is the cornerstone of good community relations. The participation of students in interpreting the educational program of the schools to the community shall, therefore, be encouraged with the following understandings:~~

- ~~1. Participation by students shall always be evaluated in terms of the effect on the students;~~
- ~~2. Students shall solicit or promote district issues only with the approval of the Superintendent.~~

Responsibilities of School Personnel *District Employees*

It is the responsibility of each employee of the District to keep informed about the affairs of the District and to see that the community relations policies are understood and applied. In contacts with the public, employees should fully realize that the District is always affected by the decisions and actions of employees.

It shall be the policy of the District to provide school personnel with information and to encourage them to be informed of the problems and practices of the schools' operation and to participate in providing citizens accurate information regarding the financing and operation of the schools.

Communications from Public and Staff

The Board encourages those ~~patrons~~ *stakeholders* who have matters they wish to discuss with the Board to confer with the Superintendent or designee prior to the meeting, so that the Superintendent may place the matter on the agenda and collect and prepare the necessary information.

The Board acts on behalf of all ~~patrons~~ *stakeholders* of the District; therefore, it cannot give status or special recognition to any individual or group of individuals on any matter, with the exceptions provided in Board policy.

END OF POLICY

Legal References:

ORS 332.107

Cross-references:

Policy BD/BDA – Board Meetings/Regular Board Meetings

Policy BDD – Board Meeting Procedures

Policy KA – Community Engagement

Policy KAA – Volunteers

Policy JFB – Student Involvement in Decision Making

Policy KC – Community Involvement in Decision Making

Policy KM – Intergovernmental Agreements

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING

The Board endorses the concept that community participation in school affairs is essential if the school system and the community are to maintain mutual confidence and respect and work together to improve the quality of education for students. It therefore intends to exert every effort to identify the community's desires and to be responsive, through its actions, to those desires.

Community participation in school affairs is essential in order to maintain mutual confidence and a high quality of education for students. The District, therefore, shall collaborate with appropriate stakeholders in decisions that affect children and families.

All district citizens will be encouraged to express their ideas, concerns and judgments about the schools through such means as 1) written suggestion(s) or proposal(s); 2) presentations at hearings; 3) responses to surveys made through interviews, written instruments or other means; 4) comments at Board meetings; and 5) service on citizens' advisory committees, school improvement teams and/or Site Councils.

The public advice will be given careful consideration. In evaluating such advice, the first concern will be for the educational program as it affects students. The Board's final decisions may depart from public advice when, in the judgment of staff and the Board, such advice is not consistent with goals adopted by the Board or with good educational practice or within available financial resources.

The District shall encourage and support organizations such as PTOs, Site Councils, Community Engagement Committees, Booster Clubs and parent advisory groups. The District also shall identify and invite potential leaders, empower parents and community members currently not as involved, and extend outreach to community members who do not have children in school.

END OF POLICY

Legal References:

ORS 329.125
ORS 332.107

Cross-references:

Policy BCF – Advisory Committees to the Board
Policy BCFAA – Community Engagement Committees
Policy BDDH – Public Participation in Board Meetings
Policy IFCA – 21st Century Schools Councils
Policy JFB – Student Involvement in Decision Making
Policy KA – Community Engagement

~~RELATIONS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS~~
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PUBLIC AGREEMENTS

Whenever feasible, the District will attempt to develop cooperative agreements with local ~~governmental~~ *public* agencies to promote the efficient use of resources by sharing of facilities and avoiding duplication of services.

Whenever appropriate, written agreements will be developed which include provisions related to responsibilities, payments, description of the property or service, insurance, liability and necessary coordination of activities.

Intergovernmental agreements will be submitted to the Board for approval.

END OF POLICY