Existing policy, number 1311.1 adopted 3/19/12, appropriate as written.

Community Relations

Staff Participation in Community Activities

The Board of Education encourages staff members to become active participants in the activities of the community in which they live so long as these activities do not interfere with their responsibilities as school district employees. This involvement provides a community with better understanding of educational programs and gains support of better education for every student. Such activity, however, is not required for initial or continued employment or advancement.

Political Activities of School Employees

School employees are encouraged to assume full responsibilities as citizens of a democracy.

Performance of Civic Duties by Employees

Employees should be expected to perform their civic duties commensurate with democratic ideals. These duties may include:

1. Voting and taking an interest in the social, political, and economic issues of the day.
2. Exercising democratic rights and responsibilities, which are shared in common with other citizens. These rights and privileges may include:
    a. Electioneering for candidates.
    b. Accepting positions in political campaigns.
    c. Holding an office in a political party organization.
    d. Serving as a delegate to political party conventions.

Individual Responsibility in Participating in Political Functions

Employees engaging in political activities shall:

1. Realize their obligation is to their work as educators;
2. Help others understand that employee opinions and actions are expressed as individuals and not as representatives of the educational institution.
3. Engage in no political activities on school premises during school hours.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

7-421 Political activities of classified municipal employees

7-421b Limitation on restriction of political rights of municipal employees

10-156e Employees of boards of education permitted to serve as elected officials; exception

Policy adopted:

WOODBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Woodbridge, Connecticut