Policy Committee Meeting

Monday, November 25, 2013 6:00 PM
Policy Committee, L.P. Wilson Community Center, Room 17, 601 Matianuck
Avenue, Windsor, CT 06095

- 1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence
 - 2. Audience to Visitors
 - 3. Review and Update P-1250 Visits to the Schools
 - 4. Review and Update P-1317 Possession of Deadly Weapons
- 5. Review and Update P-1330 Use of School Facilities
 - 6. Review and Update P-4112.3 Reference Checks
- 7. Review and Update P-4113.3 Evaluation of Athletic Coaches
 - 8. Review and Update P-4118.5 Social Networking
- 9. Review New AR-6142.63 Pool Safety Plan
 - 10. Review Bylaw 9000 Paragraph 3C, Duties of BOE Members
- 11. Review Bylaw 9010 Paragraph 1E, Requests for Agenda Items
 - 12. Discussion of Future Policy Meeting Agenda Items
- 13. Adjournment



P 1250 Series 1000 Community/Board Operation

POLICY REGARDING VISITORS

The Board of Education encourages visits by citizens, taxpayers, and parents to all school buildings. In order to promote a safe and productive educational environment for all students and staff, the Board of Education requires all visitors to receive prior approval from the school Principal or his/her designee before being permitted to visit any school building. The Board of Education, through the administration, reserves the right to limit visits in accordance with administrative regulations.

Upon arrival, all visitors must report directly to and signcomply with any and all applicable building security procedures, including but not limited to utilizing security buzzers for access, complying with requests for photo identification, reporting directly to and signing in and out at the visitors' reception area of the school office, prominently displaying visitors' badges or other identification required for visitors to the school buildings, limiting access to those areas of the buildings and grounds for which the visitors have authorized access, and complying with directives of school officials at all times.

ADOPTED: REVISED:	
December 2009	——July 2013



Series 1000 Community/Board Operation

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS

- 1. Any person wishing to visit a school building, and/or observe any student program, must obtain prior approval from the Principal or responsible administrator of the respective school building or program.
- 2. A visitor to any school building or program must be able to articulate a legitimate reason for his/her proposed visit and/or observation. Where the visitation involves direct contact with district students, or observation of an identified student or student program, the visitor must have a sufficient educational nexus with the district, its educational programs or the student to support such request.
- 3. All visits must be reasonable in length and conducted in a manner designed to minimize disruption to the district's educational programs.
- 4. When determining whether to approve a request to visit and/or observe student programs, the building Principal or responsible administrator shall consider the following factors:
 - a. the frequency of visits;
 - b. the duration of the visit;
 - c. the number of visitors involved;
 - d. the effect of the visit on a particular class or activity;
 - e. the age of the students;
 - f. the nature of the class or program;

- g. the potential for disclosure of confidential personally identifiable student information;
- h. whether the visitor/observer has a legitimate educational interest in visiting the school;
- i. whether the visitor/observer has professional ethical obligations not to disclose any personally identifiable student information; and
- j. any safety risk to students and school staff.
- 5. The building Principal or responsible administrator has the discretion to limit, or refuse, requests for visits and/or observations of student programs in light of the above criteria.
- 6. If a building Principal or responsible administrator approves a request to visit a school building and/or observe a student program, arrangements must be made in advance to ensure that the visit will not disrupt educational programs. Upon arrival, all visitors must report directly to the visitors' reception area of the school office. All visitors must sign in and out of the building and shall be accompanied by appropriate school personnel while in school buildings.—The length and scope of any visit shall be determined by the building Principal or responsible administrator in accordance with these regulations and accompanying Board policy.
- 7. Upon arrival, all visitors must comply with any and all applicable building security procedures, including but not limited to utilizing security buzzers for access, complying with requests for photo identification, reporting directly to and signing in and out at the visitors' reception area of the school office, prominently displaying visitors' badges or other identification required for visitors to the school buildings, limiting access to those areas of the buildings and grounds for which the visitors have authorized access, and complying with directives of school officials at all times.
- 8. A refusal to comply with any of the Board's policy provisions and/or regulation concerning visitors shall constitute grounds for denial of the visitor's privileges, as determined appropriate by the building Principal or designee. Such refusal may also result in a referral to law enforcement personnel, as determined appropriate by the building Principal or designee.

December 2009 **July 2013**



P 1317

Series 1000 Community/Board Operation

POLICY REGARDING POSSESSION OF DEADLY WEAPONS OR FIREARMS

I. Definitions:

- A. **Deadly Weapon** means "any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged, or a switchblade knife, gravity knife, billy, blackjack, bludgeon, or metal knuckles." Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-3 (6).
- B. **Firearm** means "any sawed-off shotgun, machine gun, rifle, shotgun, pistol, revolver, or other weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged." Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-3 (19).
- C. Peace Officer means a state police officer, "a member of the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection or an organized local police department, ana chief inspector or inspector in the state Division of Criminal Justice, a sheriff, deputy sheriff or special deputy sheriffstate marshal while exercising authority granted under any provision of the general statutes, a judicial marshal in the performance of the duties of a judicial marshal, a conservation officer or special conservation officer, as defined in section 26-5, a constable who performs criminal law enforcement duties, a special policeman, appointed under section 29-18, 29-18a or 29-19, an adult probation officer, aan official of the Department of Correction official authorized by the Commissioner of Correction to make arrests in a correctional institution or facility. anany investigator in the investigations unit of the Office of the State Treasurer, or any special agent of the federal government authorized to enforce the provisions of Title 21 of the United States Code-, or a member of a law enforcement unit of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe or the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut created and governed by a memorandum of agreement under section 2 of public act 13-170 who is certified as a police officer by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council pursuant to sections 7-294a to 7-294e, inclusive." Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-3 (9).
- D. **Real Property** means the land and all temporary and permanent structures comprising the district's elementary and secondary schools, and administrative office buildings. Real property includes, but is not limited to, the following:

classrooms, hallways, storage facilities, theatres, gymnasiums, fields and parking lots.

E. **School-Sponsored Activity** "means any activity sponsored, recognized or authorized by a board of education and includes activities conducted on or off school property." Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-233a(h).

II. Prohibition of Deadly Weapons and Firearms

In accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 29-28(e) and § 53a-217b, the possession and/or use of a deadly weapon or firearm on the real property of any school or administrative office building in this district, or at a school-sponsored activity, is prohibited, even if the person possessing the deadly weapon or firearm has a permit for such item.

III. Peace Officer Exception

A peace officer engaged in the performance of his or her official duties who is in lawful possession of a deadly weapon or firearm may bring such item on the real property of any school or administrative office building in this district, or to a school-sponsored activity.

IV. Other Exceptions

Persons in lawful possession of a deadly weapon or firearm may possess such item on the real property of any school or administrative office building in this district, or to a school-sponsored activity if:

- A. The person brings the deadly weapon or firearm on the real property of any school or administrative office building or to a school-sponsored activity for use in a program approved by school officials. In such case, the person must give school officials notice of his/her intention to bring such item, and the person must receive prior written permission from school officials.
- B. The person possesses the deadly weapon or firearm on the real property of any school or administrative office building or at a school-sponsored activity pursuant to a written agreement with school officials or a written agreement between such person's employer and school officials.

V. Consequences

A. Unless subject to one of the exceptions listed above, any person who possesses a deadly weapon or firearm on the real property of an elementary or secondary school in this district, or administrative office building, or at a school-sponsored activity, whether or not the person is lawfully permitted to carry such deadly weapon or

- firearm, will be reported to the local police authorities once school officials become aware of its possession.
- B. A student who possesses and/or uses any deadly weapon or firearm on school property in violation of this policy shall be disciplined in accordance with Board of Education Student Discipline Policy.
- C. The Board of Education reserves the right to forbid anyone caught possessing a deadly weapon or firearm on the real property of its school buildings or administrative office buildings, or at a school-sponsored activity, from using any and all school facilities.

ADOPTED	
REVISED	

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes §10-233a, § 29-28(e), §53a-3 and 3, §53a-217b- and Public Act 13-188.

9/9/11Updated 9/13/2013



P 1330 Series 1000 Community/Board Operation

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

A. Application Procedures

In accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-239, the Board of Education may permit the use of any school facility for nonprofit educational or community purposes whether or not school is in session. The Board of Education may also grant the temporary use of any school facility for public, educational or other purposes, including the holding of political discussion, at such time the facility is not in use for school purposes. In addition, the Board shall grant such use for any purpose of voting under the provisions of Title 9 of the Connecticut General Statutes whether or not school is in session. In accordance with 20 U.S.C. § 7905, the Board of Education shall not deny equal access to or a fair opportunity to meet, or otherwise discriminate, against any group officially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America (or any other youth group listed as a patriotic society in Title 36 of the United States Code) that wishes to conduct a meeting using school facilities pursuant to this policy. Such uses shall be governed by the following rules and procedures, and shall be subject to such restrictions as the Superintendent or his/her designee considers expedient.

Consistent with this policy, the Superintendent shall develop and promulgate Administrative Regulations and associated forms governing use of school buildings and facilities by community and other groups. Since the primary purpose of school facilities is for educational activities, such activities will have priority over all other requested uses.

Applications for use of facilities shall be submitted to the following individuals, in accordance with the Administrative Regulations:

<u>Facility</u>	Application Submitted To
For use of school buildings	Building Principal
For use of athletic fields and facilities	Athletic Director
For use of other school facilities	Superintendent of Schools

Groups requesting use of school buildings and facilities must identify the specific facilities desired, and approval will be for those specific facilities only. All school equipment on the premises shall remain in the charge and control of the building principal

or responsible administrator, and shall not be used without the express written permission of the administrator.

Principals and other responsible administrators shall submit copies of each building use form with a notation of whether such uses have been approved. Approval of school facilities by the principal or other responsible party may be revoked at any time by the Superintendent or his/her designee.

B. Eligible Organizations and Priority of Use

Administrators responsible for approving/disapproving requests for use of school district facilities will use the following guidelines regarding priority of usage of such facilities:

Order of priority:

- 1. School-sponsored programs and activities.
- 2. Activities of school-related organizations (*e.g.* PTO, Booster Clubs, After Graduation Committees and similar organizations).
- 3. Town department or agency activities.
- 4. Activities of non-profit organizations operating within the Town, other than school-related organizations covered by category #2 above.
- 5. Activities of for-profit organizations operating within the Town.
- 6. Out-of-town organizations.

C. Restrictions on Use of School Facilities

The following restrictions shall apply to the use of school facilities:

- 1. Illegal activities will not be tolerated.
- 2. Use or possession of tobacco, alcoholic beverages or unauthorized controlled substances shall not be permitted on school property.
- 3. Refreshments may not be prepared, served or consumed without the prior approval of the responsible administrator. Notwithstanding, only those beverages permitted by state law may be sold during the school day. The responsible administrator may permit other beverages to be sold at the location of events occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend as long as they are not sold from a vending machine or at a school store. Upon approval by the administrator, refreshments may be prepared,

served and consumed only in areas designated by the responsible administrator.

- 4. Obscene advertising, decorations or materials shall not be permitted on school property.
- 5. Advertising, decorations or other materials that promote the use of illegal drugs, tobacco products, or alcoholic beverages shall not be permitted.
- 6. Activities that are disruptive of the school environment are not permitted.

Any violation of this Policy or any applicable Administrative Regulations may result in permanent revocation of the privilege to use school facilities against the organization and/or individuals involved.

D. Fees and Other Costs

Users of school facilities shall be responsible for the fees and costs set out in a fee schedule established by the Superintendent with the approval of the Board of Education. The following guidelines shall be incorporated into such fee schedule:

	<u>Category</u>	<u>Fee</u>
1.	School-sponsored programs and activities.	No rental fee or associated costs.
2.	Activities of school-related organizations (e.g. PTO, Booster Clubs, After Graduation Committees and similar organizations).	No rental fee or associated costs.
3.	Town department or agency activities.	Associated costs.
4.	Activities of non-profit organizations operating within the Town, other than school-related organizations covered by category #2 above.	Associated costs.
5.	Activities of for-profit organizations operating within the Town.	Rental fee and associated costs.
6.	Out-of-town organizations.	Rental fee and associated costs.

"Associated costs" shall include, but shall not be limited to, fees for the services of any custodial personnel, food service personnel, security personnel or other personnel deemed by the responsible administrator to be necessary in connection with the use of a school district facility. Such costs shall be at the rates set forth in the fee schedule. Rental fees and/or associated costs otherwise applicable may be waived by the Superintendent or

his/her designee if such waiver is deemed by the Superintendent or his/her designee to be in the best interest of the school system and/or the Town.

E. Responsibility for Damage to Property or Loss of Property

In order to use school district facilities, any organization or individual requesting such use must agree to assume responsibility for any damage to and/or theft or loss of any school district property arising out of the use of the facilities.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes §10-239

Connecticut General Statutes 10-215f

Connecticut General Statutes \$10-221q

Connecticut General Statutes §10-221q

Connecticut General Statutes Title 9

Use of School Facilities for Other Purposes

Certification that food meets nutrition standards

Sale of beverages

Elections.

20 U.S.C. § 7905

26 U.S.C § 101 et seq. Organizations

Equal Access to Public School for the Boy Scouts of America Patriotic and National

ADOPTED:	
REVISED:_	

9/5/1113



P 4112.3 Series 4000 Personnel

EMPLOYMENT CHECKS

Each applicant for a position with the district shall be asked whether he/she has ever been convicted of a crime, whether there are any criminal charges pending against him/her at the time of application, and whether the applicant is included on the Abuse and Neglect Registry of the Connecticut Department of Children and Families ("DCF") (the "Registry"). If the applicant's current or most recent employment occurred out of state, the applicant will also be asked whether he/she is included on an equivalent database and/or abuse/neglect registry maintained in that other state. Applicants shall not be required to disclose any arrest, criminal charge or conviction that has been erased.

A. Reference Checking Procedures

Prior to hiring any person, the district shall make a documented good faith effort to contact previous employers of the applicant in order to obtain information and recommendations that may be relevant to the applicant's fitness for employment.

B. <u>DCF Registry Checks</u>

Prior to hiring any person for a position requiring a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Board of Education, the district shall require such applicant to submit to a records check of information maintained on the Registry concerning the applicant.

On and after July 1, 2012, prior Prior to hiring any person for any position, including one that does not require a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Board of Education, the district shall also require such applicant to submit to a records check of information maintained on the Registry concerning the applicant.

For any applicant whose current or most recent employment occurred out of state, the district shall request that the applicant provide the district with authorization to access information maintained concerning the applicant by the equivalent state agency in the state of most recent employment, if such state maintains information about abuse and neglect and has a procedure by which such information can be obtained. Refusal to permit the district to access such information shall be considered grounds for rejecting any applicant for employment.

The district shall request information from the Registry or its out of state equivalent promptly, and in any case no later than thirty (30) days from the date of employment. Registry checks will be processed according to the following procedure:

- 1) No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent or his/her designee has notified a job applicant of a decision to offer employment to the applicant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the Superintendent or designee will either obtain the information from the Registry or, if the applicant's consent is required to access the information, will supply the applicant with the release form utilized by DCF, or its out of state equivalent when available, for obtaining information from the Registry.
- 2) If consent is required to access the Registry, no later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent or his/her designee has provided the successful job applicant with the form, the applicant must submit the signed form to DCF or its out of state equivalent, with a copy to the Superintendent or his/her designee. Failure of the applicant to submit the signed form to DCF or its out of state equivalent within such ten-day period, without good cause, will be grounds for the withdrawal of the offer of employment.
- 3) Upon receipt of Registry or out of state registry information indicating previously undisclosed information concerning abuse or neglect investigations concerning the successful job applicant/employee, the Superintendent or his/her designee will notify the affected applicant/employee in writing of the results of the Registry check and will provide an opportunity for the affected applicant/employee to respond to the results of the Registry check.
- 4) If notification is received by the Superintendent or designee that that the applicant is listed as a perpetrator of abuse or neglect on the Registry, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the applicant with an opportunity to be heard regarding the results of the Registry check. If warranted by the results of the Registry check and any additional information provided by the applicant, the Superintendent or designee shall revoke the offer of employment and/or terminate the applicant's employment if he or she has already commenced working for the district.

C. Criminal Records Check Procedure

Each person hired by the district shall be required to submit to state and national criminal record checks within thirty (30) days from the date of employment. Each worker placed within a school under a public assistance employment program, or employed by a provider of supplemental services pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, or in a nonpaid, noncertified position completing preparation requirements for the issuance of an educator certificate, who performs a service involving direct student contact shall also be required to submit to state and national criminal record checks within thirty (30) days from the date such worker begins to perform such service. Record checks will be processed according to the following procedure:*

- 1) No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent or his/her designee has notified a job applicant of a decision to hire the applicant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the Superintendent will supply the applicant with a packet containing all documents and materials necessary for the applicant to be fingerprinted by the Windsor Public Schools [insert name of applicable law enforcement agency]. This packet shall also contain all documents and materials necessary for the police department to submit the completed fingerprints to the State Police Bureau of Identification for the processing of state and national criminal record checks.
- 2) No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent has provided the successful job applicant with the fingerprinting packet, the applicant must arrange to be fingerprinted by the Windsor Public Schools [insert name of applicable law enforcement agency]. Failure of the applicant to have his/her fingerprints taken within such ten-day period, without good cause, will be grounds for the withdrawal of the offer of employment.
- 3) Any person for whom criminal records checks are required to be performed pursuant to this policy must pay all fees and costs associated with the fingerprinting process and/or the submission or processing of the requests for criminal record checks.
- 4) Upon receipt of a criminal record check indicating a previously undisclosed conviction, the Superintendent or his/her designee will notify the affected applicant/employee in writing of the results of the record check and will provide an opportunity for the affected applicant/employee to respond to the results of the criminal record check.
- 5) Decisions regarding the effect of a conviction upon an applicant/employee, whether disclosed or undisclosed by the applicant/employee, will be made on a case-by-case basis. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the falsification or omission of any information on a job application or in a job interview, including but not limited to information concerning criminal convictions or pending criminal charges, shall be grounds for disqualification from consideration for employment or discharge from employment.

D. Sex Offender Registry Checks

School district personnel shall cross-reference the Connecticut Department of Public Safety's sexual offender registry prior to hiring any new employee. Registration as a sexual offender constitutes grounds for denial of employment opportunities.

E. Credit Checks

The district may also ask a prospective employee for a credit report for employment for certain district positions, where the district's receipt of a credit report is substantially related to the employee's potential job. Substantially related is defined to mean "the information contained in the credit report is related to the position for which the employee or prospective employee who is the subject of the report is being

evaluated." Prior to asking for a credit report, the district will determine whether the position falls within one of the categories as described in this paragraph. The position must: (1) be a managerial position which involves setting the direction or control of the district; (2) involve access to employees' personal or financial information; (3) involve a fiduciary responsibility to the district, including, but not limited to, the authority to issue payments, collect debts, transfer money or enter into contracts; (4) provide an expense account or district debit or credit card; or (5) involve access to the district's nonfinancial assets valued at two thousand five dollars or more.

When a credit report will be requested as part of the employment process, the district will provide written notification to prospective employee regarding the use of credit checks. That notification must be provided in a document separate from the employment application. The notification must state that the district may use the information in the consumer credit report to make decisions related to the individual's employment.

The district will obtain consent before performing the credit or other background checks. If the district intends to takes an action adverse to a potential employee based on the results of a credit report, the district must provide the prospective employee with a copy of the report on which the district relied in making the adverse decision, as well as a copy of "A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act," which should be provided by the company that provides the results of the credit check. The district will notify the prospective employee either orally, in writing or via electronic means that the adverse action was taken based on the information in the consumer report. That notice must include the name, address and phone number of the consumer reporting company that supplied the credit report; a statement that the company that supplied the report did not make the decision to take the unfavorable action and cannot provide specific reasons for the district's actions; and a notice of the person's right to dispute the accuracy or completeness of any information the consumer reporting company furnished, and to get an additional free report from the company if the person asks for it within sixty (60) days.

F. Notice of Conviction

If, at any time, the Board of Education receives notice of a conviction of a crime by 1) a person holding a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Board of Education, or 2) a person employed by a provider of supplemental services, the Board shall send such notice to the State Board of Education.

EG. School Nurses

School nurses or nurse practitioners appointed by, or under contract with, the Board of Education shall also be required to submit to a criminal history records check in accordance with the procedures outlined above.

FH. Substitute Teachers

A substitute teacher who is hired by the district must submit to state and national criminal history record checks according to the procedures outlined above, subject to the following:

- 1) If the state and national criminal history record checks for a substitute teacher have been completed within <u>one year prior to the date</u> the district hired the substitute teacher, and if the substitute teacher arranged for such prior criminal history record checks to be forwarded to the Superintendent, then the substitute teacher will not be required to submit to another criminal history record check at the time of such hire.
- 2) If a substitute teacher submitted to state and national criminal history record checks upon being hired by the district, then the substitute teacher will not be required to submit to another criminal history record check so long as the substitute teacher is continuously.employed by the district, that is, employed for at least one day of each school year, by the district.

GI. Policy Inapplicable to Operators of School Transportation Vehicles and Students Employed by the School District

- 1) This policy shall not apply to an operator of a school transportation vehicle who is already required to submit to a criminal history records check pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 14-44 (d).
- 2) This policy shall also not apply to a student employed by the local or regional school district in which the student attends school.

HJ. Falsification of Records

The falsification or omission of any information on a job application or in a job interview, including but not limited to information concerning abuse or neglect investigations or pending criminal applications, shall be grounds for disqualification from consideration for employment or discharge from employment.

[* Note: This is a sample policy designed to provide compliance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes § 10-221d. Individual boards of education may wish to treat certain aspects of this policy differently. For example, a board of education may wish to do the required fingerprinting on-site, using board personnel. Also, a board of education may request a regional educational service center to arrange the taking and forwarding of the fingerprints, with the direction to provide the board of education with the results of the criminal history records checks.

§ 10-221d (d)(3) emphasizes that a board of education has discretion to require any person that the board employs as a teacher for a non-credit adult class or adult education activity who is not obliged to hold a teaching certificate pursuant to

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-145b for his her position, to submit to state and national criminal history records check.]

Legal References:	Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221d. Criminal history records checks of school personnel. Fingerprinting. Termination or dismissal.
	Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-212. School nurses and nurse practitioners (as amended by Public Act 04-181).
	Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51tt
	No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public Law 107-110
	Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.
ADOPTED:REVISED:	
8/20/12 March 26, 2013	



Series 4000 Personnel

P 4113.3

EVALUATION, TERMINATION AND NON-RENEWAL OF ATHLETIC COACHES

It is the policy of the [_____] Board of Education (the "Board") that an athletic coach employed by the Board shall:

- 1) adhere to all Board policies, rules and regulations;
- 2) shall conduct himself or herself in a professional manner;
- 3) serve as a role model for students; and
- 4) demonstrate competence and proficiency in his or her role as an athletic coach of a particular sport.

For purposes of this policy, the term "athletic coach" means any person holding (and required to hold) a coaching permit issued by the Connecticut State Department of Education who is hired by the [______] Board of Education to act as a coach for a sport season. This term "coach" under this policy shall include only coaches who have direct responsibility for one or more teams (including assistant coaches if they serve as a coach to another team (e.g., JV)), and the term shall not include other assistant coaches and volunteer coaches.

The Superintendent may adopt administrative regulations in accordance with this policy.

I. Evaluations

Pursuant to state law, the Board requires that an athletic coach employed by the Board be evaluated on an annual basis by the coach's immediate supervisor. An athletic coach shall be provided with a copy of any such evaluation. Other assistant and volunteer coaches may be evaluated as directed by the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

II. Employment of an Athletic Coach

A. Athletic coaches serve at the discretion of the Superintendent, and their employment in their specific coaching positions (e.g., basketball, golf) may be non-renewed or terminated at any time-except as follows:—, subject to the provisions set forth below which apply to athletic coaches who have served in the same position for three or more consecutive years.

- B. If the Superintendent terminates or non-renews the coaching contract of an athletic coach who has served in the same coaching position for three or more consecutive school years, the Superintendent shall inform such coach of the decision within ninety (90) calendar days of the end of the athletic season covered by the contract. In such cases, the athletic coach will have an opportunity to appeal the decision of the Superintendent in accordance with the procedures set forth below in Section III.
- A. The C. Notwithstanding any rights an athletic coach may have to a hearing, nothing prohibits a Superintendent may terminate from terminating the employment contract of any athletic coach at any time, including an athletic coach who has served in the same coaching position for three or more consecutive school years:
 - 1) for reasons of moral misconduct, insubordination, failure to comply with the Board's policies, rules and regulations; or
 - 2) because the sport has been canceled.
- **D.** If a decision to terminate a coach's employment is made during the athletic season, the Superintendent shall remove the coach from duty during the pendency of any hearing conducted pursuant to this policy.
- B. If the athletic coach has served in the same coaching position for three or more consecutive school years, the hearing procedures set for the below shall apply. The Superintendent may non-renew the employment of any such athletic coach by providing written notification of that action within ninety (90) calendar days of the end of the season.

III. Hearing Procedures:

An athletic coach who has served in the same coaching position for <u>three or more</u> <u>consecutive years</u> may appeal any such non-renewal or termination decision (except if such decision was due to cancellation of the sport) to the Board of Education in accordance with the following procedures:

- A. The athletic coach must file a written appeal with the Board within ten (10) calendar days of the Superintendent's written notification of non-renewal or termination. Such appeal shall set forth the basis on which the athletic coach seeks review of that decision, and a copy of said appeal shall be sent to the Superintendent. Failure to submit a timely written appeal shall constitute a waiver of said appeal opportunity.
- B. Within a reasonable period of time of its receipt of a written appeal of the Superintendent's decision, the Board or a committee of the Board as designated by the Chairperson shall conduct a hearing to consider such appeal. Reasonable notice

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- of the time and place for such hearing shall be issued to the athletic coach prior to the commencement of the hearing.
- C. At the hearing, the athletic coach shall have an opportunity to present facts and evidence in support of renewal and/or reinstatement, and the Superintendent shall have the opportunity (but shall not be obligated) to present facts and evidence in support of the decision of non-renewal and/or termination. For good cause shown, the athletic coach may call a limited number of witnesses to testify if there is a clear need for witnesses to present factual information (rather than simply expressing an opinion on the skill or competence of the athletic coach). In any event, cumulative or redundant testimony shall not be allowed.
- D. The decision of non-renewal or termination shall be affirmed unless the Board determines that the decision is arbitrary and capricious. The coach shall bear the burden of proof on this point.
- E. Within a reasonable period of time following the hearing, the Board shall determine whether the Superintendent acted in an arbitrary and capricious manner in making his/her decision not to renew and/or to terminate, and shall provide a written decision to the coach. The decision of the Board shall be final.

Legal Reference	es: Conn. Gen.	Stat. § 10-222e
ADOPTED: REVISED:		
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8/2010		
10/12/12		

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Series 4000 Personnel

P 4118.5

POLICY ON SOCIAL NETWORKING MEDIA

The Board of Education recognizes the importance and utility of social media and networks for its employees, and acknowledges. The laws regarding social media continue to evolve and change. Nothing in this policy is intended to limit an employee's right to use social media under applicable law, as it may evolve. The Board acknowledges, for example, that its employees have the right under the First Amendment, in certain circumstances, to speak out on matters of public concern. In accordance with the provisions of the First Amendment, the Board will regulate The Board will resolve any conflict between this policy and applicable law in favor of the law.

Ordinarily, the use of social media by employees, including employees' personal use of social media, when such usewill not be a legal or policy issue. While a policy cannot address every instance of inappropriate social media use, employees must refrain from social media use that:

- 1) interferes, disrupts or undermines the effective operation of the school district;
- 2) is used to engage in harassing, defamatory, obscene, abusive, discriminatory or threatening or similarly inappropriate communications;
- 3) creates a hostile work environment;
- 4) breaches confidentiality obligations of school district employees; or
- 5) violates the law, board policies and/or other school rules and regulations.

The Board of Education, through its Superintendent, will adopt and maintain administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Legal References:

U.S. Constitution, Amend. I

Conn. Constitution, Article I, Sections 3, 4, 14

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-48d Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51q

Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 53a-182; 53a-183; 53a-250

Electronic Communication Privacy Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2510 through 2520

ADOPTED: REVISED:	
July 2012 September 4, 2	2013



Series 4000 Personnel

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

The Board of Education recognizes the importance and utility of social media and networks for its employees, and acknowledges. The laws regarding social media continue to evolve and change. Nothing in the Board's policy or these administrative regulations is intended to limit an employee's right to use social media under applicable law, as it may evolve. The Board acknowledges, for example, that its employees have the right under the First Amendment, in certain circumstances, to speak out on matters of public concern. In accordance with the provisions of the First Amendment, the Board will regulate The Board will resolve any conflict between the Board's policy or these regulations and applicable law in favor of the law.

Ordinarily, the use of social media by employees, including employees' personal use of social media, when such usewill not be a legal or policy issue. While a policy or regulation cannot address every instance of inappropriate social media use, employees must refrain from social media use that:

- 1)-1) interferes, disrupts or undermines the effective operation of the school district;
- 2)-2) is used to engage in harassing, defamatory, obscene, abusive, discriminatory or threatening or similarly inappropriate communications;
- 3) creates a hostile work environment;
- 4)-4) breaches confidentiality obligations of school district employees; or
- 5) 5) violates the law, board policies and/or other school rules and regulations.

Definitions:

The rapid speed at which technology continuously evolves makes it difficult, if not impossible, to identify all types of social media.

Thus, the term <u>Social Media</u> includes a variety of online tools and services that allow users to publish content and interact with their audiences. By way of example, social media includes:

- (1) social-networking sites (i.e. Facebook, LinkedIn, Google+);
- (2) blogs and micro-blogs (i.e. Twitter, Tumblr);
- (3) content-sharing sites (i.e. Scribd, SlideShare); and

<u>Social media</u> includes, but is not limited to, social networking sites, such as Twitter, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, and <u>MySpace</u>.(4) imagesharing and videosharing sites (i.e. Flickr, YouTube, Instagram, Vine, Pinterest).

<u>Board of Education</u> includes all names, logos, buildings, images and entities under the authority of the Board of Education.

Rules Concerning Personal Social Media Activity

- 1. An employee may not mention, discuss or reference the Board of Education, the school district or its individual schools, programs or teams on personal social networking sites in a manner that could reasonably be construed as an official school district communication, unless the employee also states within the communication that such communication is the personal view of the employee of the school district and that the views expressed are the employee's alone and do not represent the views of the school district or the Board of Education.
- 2. Employees are required to maintain appropriate professional boundaries with students, parents, and colleagues. For example, on Facebook, absent an unrelated online relationship (e.g., relative, family friend, or personal friendship unrelated to school), it is not appropriate for a teacher or administrator to "friend" a student or his/her parent or guardian or otherwise establish special relationships with selected students through personal social media, and it is not appropriate for an employee to give students or parents access to personal postings unrelated to school.
- 3. Unless given written consent, employees may not use the Board of Education's logo or trademarks on their personal posts. Please note that this prohibition extends to the use of logos or trademarks associated with individual schools, programs or teams of the school district.
- 4. Employees must refrain from engaging in harassing, defamatory, obscene, abusive, discriminatory or threatening or similarly inappropriate communications through personal social media. Such communications reflect poorly on the school district's reputation, can affect the educational process and may substantially and materially interfere with an employee's ability to fulfill his/her professional responsibilities.
- 5. Employees are individually responsible for their personal communications through social media. Employees may be sued by other employees, parents or others, and any individual that views an employee's communication through social media as defamatory, pornographic, proprietary, harassing, libelous or creating a hostile work environment. As such activities are outside the scope of employment, employees may be personally liable for such claims.
- 6. Employees are required to comply with all Board of Education policies and procedures with respect to the use of computer equipment, networks or electronic devices when accessing social media sites. Any access to personal social media activities while on

- school property or using school district equipment must comply with those policies, and may not interfere with an employee's duties at work.
- 7. The Board of Education reserves the right to monitor all employee use of district computers and other electronic devices, including employee blogging and social networking activity. An employee should have no expectation of personal privacy in any personal communication made through social media while using district computers, cellular telephones or other electronic data devices.
- 8. All communications through personal social media must comply with the Board of Education's policies concerning confidentiality, including the confidentiality of student information. If an employee is considering sharing information and is unsure about the confidential nature of the information, the employee shall consult with his/her supervisor prior to communicating such information.
- 9. An employee may not link a personal social media page to the Board of Education's website or the websites of individual schools, programs or teams; or post Board of Education material on a social media site or webpage without written permission of his/her supervisor.
- 10. All Board of Education policies that regulate off-duty conduct apply to social media activity including, but not limited to, policies related to public trust, illegal harassment, code of conduct, and protecting confidential information.

Rules Concerning District-Sponsored Social Media Activity

- 1. In order for an employee to use social media sites as an educational tool or in relation to extracurricular activities or programs of the school district, the employee must seek and obtain the **prior** permission of his/her supervisor the Curriculum Supervisor for Education Technology. The employee must comply with the following rules:
- 2. If an employee wishes to use Facebook or other similar social media sites to communicate meetings, activities, games, responsibilities, announcements etc., for a school-based club or a school-based activity or an official school-based organization, or an official sports team, the employee must also comply with the following rules:
 - The employee must set up the club, etc. as a group list which will be "closed" (e.g. membership in the group is limited to students, parents and appropriate school personnel), and "monitored" (e.g. the employee had the ability to access and supervise communications on the social media site).
 - When Facebook is used as the social media site, members will not be established as "friends," but as members of the group list. When other social media sites are used, the employee will establish a similar parameter on the basis of the functionality of the social media site utilized.

- Anyone who has access to the communications conveyed through the site may only gain access by the permission of the employee (e.g. teacher, administrator, supervisor or coach). Persons desiring to access the page may join only after the employee invites them and allows them to join.
- Parents shall be permitted to access any page that their child has been invited to ioin.
- Access to the page may only be permitted for educational purposes related to the club, activity, organization or team.
- o The employee responsible for the page will monitor it regularly.
- The employee's supervisor shall be permitted access to any page established by the employee for a school-related purpose.
- Employees are required to maintain appropriate professional boundaries in the establishment and maintenance of all such district-sponsored social media activity.
- 3. Employees are required to refrain from making harassing, defamatory, obscene, abusive, discriminatory or threatening or similarly inappropriate statements in their social media communications on district-sponsored sites.
- 4. Employees are required to comply with all Board of Education policies and procedures and all applicable laws with respect to the use of computer equipment, networks or devices when accessing district-sponsored social media sites.
- 5. The Board of Education reserves the right to monitor all employee use of district computers and other electronic devices, including employee blogging and social networking activity. An employee should have no expectation of personal privacy in any communication made through social media while using district computers, cellular telephones or other data devices.
- 6. All communications through district-sponsored social media must comply with the Board of Education's policies concerning confidentiality, including the confidentiality of student information. If an employee is considering sharing information and is unsure about the confidential nature of the information, the employee shall consult with his/her supervisor prior to communicating such information.
- 7. An employee may not link a district-sponsored social media page to any personal social media sites or sites not sponsored by the school district.
- 8. An employee may not use district-sponsored social media communications for private financial gain, political, commercial, advertisement, proselytizing or solicitation purposes.
- 9. An employee may not use district-sponsored social media communications in a manner that misrepresents personal views as those of the Board of Education, individual school or school district, or in a manner that could be construed as such.

Rules Concerning Personal Social Media Activity

- 1. The Board understands that employees utilize social media and the web for personal matters in the workplace. The Board of Education reserves the right to monitor all employee use of district computers and other electronic devices, including a review of employee blogging and personal social media activity. An employee should have no expectation of personal privacy in any personal communication made through social media while using district computers, cellular telephones or other electronic data devices. While the Board reserves the right to monitor use of its computer systems, employees may engage in incidental personal use of social media in the workplace so long as such use does not interfere with operations and productivity, and does not violate other Board policies.
- 2. An employee may not mention, discuss or reference the Board of Education, the school district or its individual schools, programs or teams on personal social networking sites in a manner that could reasonably be construed as an official school district communication, unless the employee also states within the communication that such communication is the personal view of the employee of the school district and that the views expressed are the employee's alone and do not represent the views of the school district or the Board of Education. An example of such a disclaimer is: "the opinions and views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the position or opinion of the school district or Board of Education." For example, except as may be permitted by Board policy, employees may not provide job references for other individuals on social media that indicate that such references are made in an official capacity on behalf of the Board of Education.
- 3. Employees are required to maintain appropriate professional boundaries with students, parents, and colleagues. For example, absent an unrelated online relationship (e.g., relative, family friend, or personal friendship unrelated to school), it is not appropriate for a teacher or administrator to "friend" a student or his/her parent or guardian or otherwise establish special relationships with selected students through personal social media, and it is not appropriate for an employee to give students or parents access to personal postings unrelated to school.
- 4. In accordance with the public trust doctrine, employees are advised to refrain from engaging in harassing, defamatory, obscene, abusive, discriminatory or threatening or similarly inappropriate communications through personal social media. Such communications reflect poorly on the school district's reputation, can affect the educational process and may substantially and materially interfere with an employee's ability to fulfill his/her professional responsibilities.

- 5. Employees are individually responsible for their personal communications through personal social media. Employees may be sued by other employees, parents or others, and any individual that views an employee's communication through personal social media as defamatory, pornographic, proprietary, harassing, libelous or creating a hostile work environment. In addition, employees should consider refraining from posting anything that belongs to another person or entity, such as copyrighted publications or trademarked images. As all of these activities are outside the scope of employment, employees may be personally liable for such claims.
- 6. Employees are required to comply with all Board of Education policies and procedures with respect to the use of computer equipment, networks or electronic devices when accessing personal social media sites through district computer systems. Any access to personal social media activities while on school property or using school district equipment must comply with those policies, and may not interfere with an employee's duties at work.
- 7. All communications through personal social media must comply with the Board of Education's policies concerning confidentiality, including the confidentiality of student information. If an employee is considering sharing information and is unsure about the confidential nature of the information, the employee shall consult with his/her supervisor prior to communicating such information.
- 8. An employee may not link a personal social media page to the Board of Education's website or the websites of individual schools, programs or teams; or post official Board of Education material on a personal social media site or webpage without written permission of his/her supervisor.
- 9. All of the Board of Education's policies and administrative regulations apply to employee use of personal social media in the same way that they apply to conduct that occurs in the workplace and off duty conduct.

Disciplinary Consequences

Violation of the Board's policy concerning the use of social media or these administrative regulations may lead to discipline up to and including the termination of employment consistent with state and federal law.

Legal References:

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U.S. Constitution, Amend. I
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Conn. Constitution, Article I, Sections 3, 4, 14

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-48d Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51q

E	etronic Communication Privacy Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2510 through 2520
ADOPTI REVISE	
July 2012 September 4, 2013	

Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 53a-182; 53a-183; 53a-250

AR 6142.63

Series 1000 Community/Board Operation

POOL SAFETY PLAN (ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS)

The Board of Education establishes these procedures to govern the conduct of any student aquatic activity that takes place in any of its school swimming pools.

I. Definitions:

- A. **School Swimming Pool:** means any swimming pool approved for use by the Board for student aquatic activities;
- B. **Student Aquatic Activities:** means any physical education class, interscholastic athletics or extracurricular activities offered to students by the board of education that makes use of a school swimming pool;
- C. Qualified Swimming Coach: means any person who (A) holds a valid coaching permit issued by the State Board of Education, and (B) (i) is certified as a lifeguard by the American Red Cross or another nationally-recognized organization that conducts aquatic training programs, (ii) has completed a safety training for swim coaches and instructors course offered by the American Red Cross or an organization approved by the State Board of Education, or (iii) was certified as a lifeguard for at least five years during the previous ten years and has at least five years' experience as a swimming coach or an instructor of a physical education course that makes use of a school swimming pool;
- D. Qualified Educator: means any person who (A) holds a valid certificate issued by the State Board of Education, pursuant to section 10-145b of the general statutes, with an endorsement in physical education, (B) (i) is certified as a lifeguard by the American Red Cross or another nationally-recognized organization that conducts aquatic training programs, (ii) has completed a safety training for swim coaches and instructors course offered by the American Red Cross or an organization approved by the State Board of Education, or (iii) was certified as a lifeguard for at least five years during the previous ten years and has at least five years' experience as a swimming coach or an instructor of a physical education course that makes use of a school swimming pool, (C) is certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, pursuant to section 19a-113a-1 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, as amended from time to time, and (D) has

completed a course in first aid offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the Department of Public Health or any director of health;

E. **Qualified Lifeguard:** means any person who (A) is sixteen years of age or older, (B) is certified as a lifeguard by the American Red Cross or another nationally-recognized organization that conducts aquatic training programs, (C) is certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, pursuant to section 19a-113a-1 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, as amended from time to time, and (D) has completed a course in first aid offered by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the Department of Public Health or any director of health.

II. <u>Mandatory Supervision</u>

- A. For the 2013-2014 school year, in addition to the person responsible for conducting any student aquatic activity that makes use of a Board school swimming pool, there shall be at least one qualified educator, qualified swimming coach or qualified lifeguard who shall be solely responsible for monitoring such school swimming pool during such student aquatic activities for swimmers who may be in distress and providing assistance to such swimmers when necessary.
- B. For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year thereafter, any physical education course that makes use of a Board school swimming pool shall have at least one qualified educator who shall serve as the instructor of such physical education course and be responsible for implementing the provisions of the school swimming pool safety plan, and at least one qualified educator, qualified swimming coach or qualified lifeguard whose primary responsibility is to monitor the school swimming pool for swimmers who may be in distress and provide assistance to such swimmers when necessary.
- C. For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year thereafter, any interscholastic athletic activity that makes use of a Board school swimming pool shall have at least one qualified swimming coach who shall serve as a coach of the participating students and be responsible for implementing the provisions of the school swimming pool safety plan, and at least one qualified educator, qualified swimming coach or qualified lifeguard whose primary responsibility is to monitor the school swimming pool for swimmers who may be in distress and provide assistance to such swimmers when necessary.
- D. For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school year thereafter, any extracurricular activity that makes use of a Board school swimming pool shall have at least one qualified lifeguard who will monitor the school swimming pool for swimmers who may be in distress and

provide assistance to such swimmers when necessary, and be responsible for implementing the provisions of the school swimming pool safety plan.

III. Plan Review

The Board's Pool Safety Plan shall be reviewed and updated as necessary prior to the commencement of each school year.

Legal References:

State Law:

Public Act 13-161, An Act concerning Pool Safety at Public Schools

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Section: Bylaws of the Board

Subject: ROLE OF BOARD AND MEMBERS

BL-9000

(Powers, Purposes, Duties)

BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAW WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS WINDSOR, CT

1. General Powers of the Board

- A. The Board of Education represents the citizens of Windsor in carrying out the mandates of the Connecticut General Statutes.
- B. The Board of Education shall be the legislative body which determines all questions of general policy to be employed in the conduct of the schools.
- C. In determining district policy, the Board of Education shall:
 - (1) hear and consider facts and recommendations,
 - (2) adopt a plan, policy or course of action, and
 - (3) authorize the Superintendent of Schools, its executive officer, to carry out its legislation or policy decisions.

2. Duties and Responsibilities of the Board

- A. Provide leadership in order that the goals and objectives of the school system, as set forth by the Board, can be effectively carried out.
- B. Elect a Superintendent of Schools and evaluate the Superintendent in accordance with State statute.
- C. Consider and adopt an annual budget, prepared by the Superintendent of Schools.
- D. Establish policy for employment, promotion, evaluation and dismissal of personnel in accordance with the State Statutes.
- E. Initiate and approve the acquisition and disposition of school sites, and initiate and approve plans for school buildings.

Section: Bylaws of the Board

Subject: ROLE OF BOARD AND MEMBERS

(Powers, Purposes, Duties)

BL-9000

BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAW WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS WINDSOR, CT

2. Duties and Responsibilities of the Board (continued)

- F. Consider specific recommendations made by the Superintendent of Schools.
- G. Communicate the educational programs to the people of the community.
- H. Consider and adopt changes in the curriculum. Perform all Board functions and operations in conformity with state, federal and local laws, rules and regulations.
- I. Evaluate the Board's performance in relation to its goals, and to establish and clarify policies based upon the results of such evaluation.
- J. Render all decisions based solely on judgment of the available facts and not surrender that judgment to individuals, special interests, or personal agendas.
- K. To take other actions required by law.

3. Duties and Responsibilities of Members

The Board of Education should make every effort to sustain a high level of professionalism in the school system. In order to maintain appropriate standards it is essential that individual Board members exhibit civility, integrity, and a willingness to apply themselves wholeheartedly to the business of supporting and governing the school system.

- A. Be aware of the state school laws, regulations of the Department of Education, district policies, rules and regulations.
- B. Thoroughly prepare for Board meetings.
- C. Accept the will of the majority vote and give support to the resulting policy or action.
- D. Refer all suggestions and complaints from constituents to the Superintendent and, or Board, and to abstain from individual counsel and action.

Section: Bylaws of the Board

Subject: ROLE OF BOARD AND MEMBERS

(Powers, Purposes, Duties)

BL-9000

BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAW WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS WINDSOR, CT

- E. Recognize that Board membership vests no individual authority unless expressly authorized by the Board.
- F. Respect the confidentiality of all matters properly discussed in executive session of the Board, and all matters pertaining to the schools that, if discussed, might needlessly injure individuals or the schools.
- G. Immediately object to public matters that may be inappropriately brought up during executive session.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

1-18a Definitions (public agency)

1-200 Definitions

10-4a Educational interests of the State Defined

10-4b Failure of local or regional board to implement educational interests

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education re: school attendance

10-220 Duties of boards of education

10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules

10-240 Control of schools

10-241 Powers of school districts

Bylaws Adopted: January 19, 2005

Section:

Bylaws of the Board

Subject:

LIMITS OF AUTHORITY

BL-9010

BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAW WINDSOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS WINDSOR, CT

1. Transaction of Business:

- A. The Board shall transact all business at a legal meeting of the Board.
- B. The Board shall concern itself with Board questions of educational policy, and not with administrative details.
- C. Board members have no individual authority. Individual members shall make no commitments for the Board or issue orders for the Board, except when executing an assignment delegated by the Board.
- D. The Board member does not represent a factional segment of the community, but a part of the body that represents and acts for the community as a whole.
- E. In order for an item to appear on the agenda of the Board of Education other than normal business items, at least three members of the Board of Education must assent or request that the matter be placed on the agenda. Board of Education members should communicate their requests to the President of the Board of Education.

2. Research reports

A. In order to insure that staff time is allotted wisely, requests for detailed research or reports by staff must be made by three Board members.

Bylaw Adopted: January 19, 2005