

COMMUNITY RELATIONS GOALS

The Board of Education strives to conduct district affairs by way of a continuing, open dialogue between the community and the schools. Given district residents' high level of interest in the education of children, the Board wishes to maintain its high level of sensitivity to the needs and desires of the community and to act expeditiously to meet changing needs and conditions.

It is the responsibility of the Board to represent and influence the community within which educational programs are delivered so as to reinforce the need for a quality educational program as part of a healthy community. Every member of the Board shall serve as an advocate for children, who are the primary reason why schools exist and whose educational needs must be identified and met.

The Board believes that it is the responsibility of the entire community to provide the means, conditions, environment, interest and support necessary for excellence in the total educational program. It is imperative that there exist relations among all racial, religious and economic groups leading to a more cooperative atmosphere in our schools.

It is also imperative that the community be involved in every facet of the district. Citizens should be actively involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of district programs and services.

To this end, the Board establishes the following goals for community involvement:

1. to provide every possible means whereby all residents of the school district may have the opportunity to contribute their best thinking to the orderly planning of education for children in the district;
2. to keep the community accurately informed about its schools;
3. to understand community attitudes and aspirations for the schools;
4. to encourage contributions from the parent-teacher associations of the district so that school personnel and parents cooperate to advance the educational welfare of the children;
5. to handle all complaints from the public by the administrative officer in charge of the unit of the school district organization closest to the complainant. However, such complaints may be carried to the Superintendent of Schools and/or the Board if the problem cannot be solved at that level;
6. to promote a spirit of cooperation among the Board, the schools, and the community;
7. to develop and maintain the confidence of the community in the Board and the school district staff;
8. to expand the public understanding of every aspect of the school system, and stimulate public interest in the school;

9. to facilitate dissemination of information to the community concerning issues and activities in the school;
10. to ascertain the community's opinions and desires with respect to the operations of the school system, and to incorporate that knowledge into its actions; to develop arrangements among civic and community organizations for sharing of resources, especially in the creation of programs designed to benefit students; and
11. to develop and maintain the most effective means of communication possible with the people of the district.

Notwithstanding the above, the final decisions in these areas will rest with the Board.

Note: Prior policy, Policy Manual, AD/AE, revised

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