

BOARD MEMBER SCHOOL VISITS

An individual Board member’s rights are no greater or different from those of any other individual. Unless specifically authorized to act on behalf of the Board of Education, an individual Board member has no right to make an official visit to the schools for the purposes of inspecting the schools, gathering information, or giving directions to any employee of the schools.

In consideration of the foregoing, the Board hereby authorizes that each year the Board President may designate Board members as liaisons to particular schools for the purpose of official visits. Only designated Board members shall make official school visits, and Liaisons shall make every effort not to disrupt the educational process during any visit to that school community.

Connect to visits, Board members shall:

1. provide advance notice (at least 72 hours) of a school visit to the Building Principal and applicable School Chief that is confirmed via email or a calendar announcement;
2. shall notify the Principal upon entering the building;
3. visit schools designated to them at least once annually, confirmed via email or calendar appointment;
4. not make official visits more frequently than once monthly unless there is an explicit invitation from the Building Principal; Superintendent of Schools; or authorization of the Board majority; and
5. direct concerns or opinions related to the education program in individual school buildings to the Superintendent of Schools.

In the event that a Board member is unable to make the yearly visit to their designated school due to illness or other exigent circumstances, the Board President may designate a substitute Board member for the purposes of the official visit.

Ref: Education Law §§1604; 1701; 1708; 1709; 1710
Coughlan v. Cowan, 21 Misc. 2d 667 (1959)
Appeal of Silano, 33 EDR 20 (1993)
Matter of Bruno, 4 EDR 14 (1964)

Notes: Adopted November 30, 2023 pursuant to Resolution No. 2023-24: 470a