

## SECTION K: SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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KA	School-Community Relations Goals
KBA	Public's Right to Know
KBCA	News Releases
KBCD	Broadcasting and Taping of Board Meetings (Also BDDJ)
KBE	Tax Issues (Also FD)
KC	Community Involvement in Decision Making (Also ABA)
KD	Public Participation at Board Meetings (Also BDDH)
KF	Community Instructional Resources (Also IIC)
KG	Community Use of School Premises (Equal Access)
KGB	Public Conduct on District Property
KGC	No Tobacco Use on District Property
KH	Public Gifts to the District
KI	Public Solicitations in the Schools
KJ	Advertising in the Schools
KJA	Distribution of Materials in the Schools
KK	Visitors to the Schools
KKA	Recruiters in the Schools
KL	Public Complaints
KLB	Public Complaints About the Curriculum or Instructional Materials
KLD	Public Complaints About District Personnel
KMA	Relations with Parent Organizations
KMB	Relations with Booster Organizations

## SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS GOALS

Staff members have a responsibility to promote good school-community relations. The school-community relations program is directed by the Superintendent and is based upon the following principles.

1. The school-community relations program is a planned, systematic, two-way process of communications between the District and the community.
2. The program may use media sources and other forms of communications available to effectively communicate with the citizens and employees.
3. Communications with the public should promote involvement, objective appraisal and support.
4. Communications should be internal as well as external and provide factual, objective and realistic data.
5. The School communications program should be responsive both to events as they arise and to evaluations of the program.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3315.07  
OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-04

CROSS REFS.: AE, School District Goals and Objectives  
AFA, Evaluation of School Board Operational Procedures (Also BK)  
KBA, Public's Right to Know

## PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW

The Board supports the right of the people to know about the programs and services of their schools and makes efforts to disseminate appropriate information. Each building principal is authorized and expected to keep the school's community informed about the school's programs and activities. The release of information of Districtwide interest is coordinated by the Superintendent.

Business of the Board is discussed and decisions are made at public meetings of the Board, except such matters required to be discussed in private executive sessions.

The official minutes of the Board, its written policies, its financial records and all other public records are open for inspection in the central office during the hours when the administrative offices are open.

Each Board member attends public records training every term for which he/she is elected to public office. However, the Board may, by resolution, designate one or more persons to attend public records training on its behalf. If so decided, the Board appoints a designee whenever the composition of the Board changes.

The District may ask that the identity of an individual requesting information and the reason the information is sought be in writing. The District first informs the requester that such disclosure is not mandatory, unless the request is for student directory information. The District also informs the requester that providing such information in writing enhances the District's ability to identify, locate or deliver the records sought. The District may also ask that the request be put in writing, but notifies the requester that it is not mandatory to do so.

Any individual who wants to obtain or inspect a copy of a public record may request to have the record duplicated on paper, on the same medium on which the record is kept or on any other medium that the Superintendent/designee determines reasonable. If the request is ambiguous or overly broad, the District informs the requester of the manner in which records are maintained and accessed in the ordinary course of business and allows the requester to revise the request.

Records pertaining to individual students and other confidential materials are not released for inspection. Only that information deemed "directory information" may be released from an individual student's file, and only after complying with the regulations prepared by the administration for the release of such information. Student directory information is not released for profit-making purposes or when parents have affirmatively withdrawn their consent to release in writing. Student records that consist of "personally identifiable information" generally are exempt from disclosure.

All records responsive to the request are made available in a reasonable period of time. The District makes the requester aware of any information that is exempt from disclosure requirements by notifying the requester of any redacted information or by making redactions in a plainly visible manner. If a public records request is denied, the District provides an explanation with legal authority for the denial of the request. This explanation is provided in writing if the request is made in writing or if the Superintendent/designee determines written explanation is necessary.

The Superintendent/designee transmits the information sought by mail or by any other means of delivery requested, if the method is reasonably available. The number of requests physically sent by mail or another delivery service to any one person may be limited to 10 a month unless the person certifies, in writing, that neither the records nor the information in them will be used for commercial purposes. If the District provides public records on a free and accessible website, the number of requests delivered in a digital format to any one person may be limited to 10 a month unless the records requested are not provided on the website and the person certifies, in writing, that neither the records nor the information in them will be used for commercial purposes.

A fee may be charged for copies and/or delivery. The District may require the fee charged for copies and/or delivery be paid in advance.

The Board's public records policy is posted in a conspicuous location in the central office and in all other District buildings and employee handbooks provided by the District. The policy is distributed directly to the records custodian and receipt of the policy by the custodian is acknowledged. A copy of the records retention schedule is maintained and readily available to the public in the central office.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]  
[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]  
[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]  
[Re-adoption date: September 28, 2016]  
[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; 20 USC, Section 1232g  
ORC 121.22  
149.011; 149.35; 149.381; 149.41; 149.43  
3319.321  
OAC 3301-35-03; 3301-35-04

CROSS REFS.: BDC, Executive Sessions  
BDDG, Minutes  
EHA, Data and Records Retention  
GBL, Personnel Records  
GBS, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)  
IGBA, Programs for Students with Disabilities  
JO, Student Records  
KA, School-Community Relations Goals  
KKA, Recruiters in the Schools

NEWS RELEASES

The District is a public institution endeavoring to serve the educational needs of the community. It is important that information be disseminated concerning school activities and issues. The Superintendent develops procedures to provide wide coverage and to coordinate publicity that enhances the image of the District.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3315.07  
OAC 3301-35-03; 3301-35-04

CROSS REFS.: BCB, Board Officers

## NEWS RELEASES

The procedures regarding news releases are as follows.

1. The Board President is the official spokesperson for the Board, except as this duty is delegated to the Superintendent or another Board member.
2. News releases that are of a Districtwide nature or pertain to established Board policy are the responsibility of the Superintendent or a designated member of the administrative staff.
3. News releases that are of concern to only one school, or to an organization of one school, are the responsibility of the principal of that particular school.
4. The Board expects the administration to maintain a vital and effective link with the media sources of the community. This includes a variety of forms and forums. This effort is directed by the Board President or his/her designee.

(Approval date: March 26, 2001)

(Re-approval date: August 22, 2005)

(Re-approval date: April 19, 2011)

(Re-approval date: July 27, 2017)

## BROADCASTING AND TAPING OF BOARD MEETINGS

Photographic and electronic audio and video broadcasting and recording devices may be used at regular and special Board meetings legally open to the public according to the following guidelines.

1. Photographs, broadcasting and recordings of meetings should be made only when all parties involved have been informed that cameras, broadcasting and/or recording devices are being used. Persons using these devices should notify the Board of their intent to do so.
2. Persons operating cameras, broadcasting and/or recording devices must do so with a minimum of disruption to those present at the meeting. Specifically, the view between Board members and the audience must not be obstructed, interviews must not be conducted during the meeting and no commentary is to be given in a manner that distracts Board members or the audience.
3. The Board has the right to halt any recording that interrupts or disturbs the meeting.

The Board may make the necessary arrangements to have audio recordings of all regular meetings and any special meeting that it deems appropriate.

[[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]  
[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]  
[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]  
**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: U.S. Const. Amend. I  
ORC 121.22  
2911.21  
2917.12  
2921.31  
3313.20(A)

CROSS REFS.: BD, School Board Meetings  
BDDH, Public Participation at Board Meetings (Also KD)



## TAX ISSUES

The Board examines financial needs in advance of any levy or bond elections. The Board provides the public with information on school building needs and on levy and bond elections. It does not use District funds to promote approval of school-related tax issues.

Tax reduction factors are considered in coordination with the Sexennial Reappraisal and/or the Triennial Update in affected District counties. In considering a potential tax issue, the Board examines all legal options to obtain additional revenue.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: May 21, 2015]

**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: Ohio Const. Art XII, Sections 2, 5

ORC Chapter 133

319.301

3311.21

3313.37; 3313.375

3315.07

3501.01

Chapter 5705

Chapter 5713

5715.33

5748.01 et seq.

OAC 5703-25-45 through 5703-25-49

CROSS REFS.: BCF, Advisory Committees to the Board  
FL, Retirement of Facilities

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING

Community participation in the schools is essential to promote and maintain the quality of education for all students.

In addition to electing fellow citizens to represent them on the Board, all citizens may express ideas, concerns and judgments about the schools to the administration, to the staff, to any appointed advisory bodies and ultimately to the Board. Ideas should be addressed to the responsible individual in an appropriate fashion.

Residents may be invited by the Board to act as advisers, individually and in groups, in such areas as:

1. clarifying general ideas and attitudes held by residents in regard to the schools;
2. assisting in developing Board policies under which the District is to be managed;
3. assisting in establishing administrative arrangements and regulations designed to help implement these policies;
4. determining the purposes of curriculum and special services to be provided for students;
5. evaluating the extent to which these purposes are being achieved by present policies and/or
6. studying a specific problem or set of closely related problems about which a decision must be made.

The Board gives consideration to the advice it receives from individuals and community groups. Final authority for all decisions rests with the Board.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 121.22  
OAC 3301-35-04

CROSS REFS.: AD, Development of Philosophy of Education  
AFA, Evaluation of School Board Operational Procedures (Also BK)  
BCE, Board Committees  
BCF, Advisory Committees to the Board  
BCFA, Business Advisory Council to the Board  
FL, Retirement of Facilities  
IF, Curriculum Development

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

All meetings of the Board and Board-appointed committees are open to the public.

In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of 30 minutes of public participation may be permitted at each meeting.

Each person addressing the Board shall give his/her name and address in writing and indicate in writing the specific reason for public participation. If several people wish to speak, each person is allotted five minutes until the total time of 30 minutes is used. During that period, no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have had the opportunity to do so. Persons desiring more time should follow the procedure of the Board to be placed on the regular agenda. The period of public participation may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board, present and voting.

Agendas are available to all those who attend Board meetings. The section on the agenda for public participation shall be indicated. Noted at the bottom of each agenda shall be a short paragraph outlining the Board's policy on public participation at Board meetings.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]  
[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]  
[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]  
[Re-adoption date: October 22, 2015]  
[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 121.22(C)  
3313.20(A)

CROSS REFS.: BCE, Board Committees  
BD, School Board Meetings  
BDDB, Agenda Format  
BDDC, Agenda Preparation and Dissemination  
BG, Board-Staff Communications (Also GBD)

## COMMUNITY INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES

Helping each student develop to his/her full potential and to become a citizen contributing to the welfare of the community are important objectives of the District's educational program. The Board encourages administrative and instructional personnel to rely on the community as one of its educational resources. The administration directs community instructional resources designed to involve the citizens, institutions and environment of our community in the education of its children.

The Superintendent has supervisory control over community relations, which includes school volunteer service. Members of the staff and of the community are encouraged to offer their ideas and services through the channels that the administration develops.

The Superintendent reports to the Board on the involvement and effectiveness of community relations.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3315.07  
OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-04; 3301-35-06

CROSS REFS.: GBQ, Criminal Records Check  
IICC, School Volunteers

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL PREMISES  
(Equal Access)

Although the basic purpose of public school premises is to provide the youth of the community a sound educational program, the complete function of education is not achieved until the school premises are made to serve the entire community. To accomplish this objective, when school premises are not in use for school purposes, the Board shall, upon payment of the prescribed fee and subject to the requirements of applicable regulations, permit the use of school premises for auxiliary, educational, recreational, cultural, civic, social, religious or other Board-approved purposes.

The District may rent or lease premises to a public or nonpublic university for use for evening and summer classes.

Any school within the District receiving Title I funding must offer the same premises access to Boy Scouts as to other organizations.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]  
[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]  
[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]  
[Re-adoption date: January 19, 2012]  
[Re-adoption date: March 26, 2015]  
**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.  
Title VIII, Section 801  
ORC 3311.215  
3313.75; 3313.76; 3313.77; 3313.78; 3313.79  
4303.26

CROSS REFS.: KGB, Public Conduct on District Property  
KI, Public Solicitations in the Schools

## COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL PREMISES

The Board believes that the school premises of this District should be made available for community purposes, provided that such use does not infringe on the original and necessary purpose of the property or interfere with the educational program of the schools.

The Board will permit the use of school premises when such permission has been requested in writing by a responsible organization or a group of at least seven citizens and has been approved by the Superintendent.

In weighing competing interests for the use of school premises, the Board will give priority in the following order:

1. groups directly related to the schools and the operations of the schools;
2. the registration of voters and conduct of elections;
3. meetings of employee associations;
4. organizations indirectly related to the schools, including parent and teacher organizations;
5. departments or agencies of the municipal government;
6. other governmental agencies;
7. community organizations formed for charitable, civic, social or educational purposes;
8. community political groups and
9. community religious groups.

The use of school facilities shall not be granted for any purpose which is prohibited by law.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the granting of permission to use school premises.

Use of school equipment in conjunction with the use of school premises must be specifically requested in writing, and may be granted by the procedure by which permission to use the premises is granted. The users of school equipment must accept liability for any damage or loss to such equipment that occurs while it is in their use. Where guidelines so specify, no item of equipment may be used except by a qualified operator.

Users shall be financially liable for damage to the premises and for proper chaperonage.

The Board will approve annually a schedule for fees for the use of school premises, based upon the following factors:

1. The use of school premises for activities related to the educational program and District operations shall be without cost to the users except that:
  - A. the users shall be responsible for any damage over and above ordinary wear and
  - B. the users shall be responsible for any police fees.
2. The use of school premises for any nonprofit community use, excepting religious use, shall be without cost to the users except that:
  - A. the users shall be responsible for any damage over and above ordinary wear;
  - B. the users shall be responsible for any extra custodial fees, light, and heat and
  - C. the users shall be responsible for any police fees.
3. All other organizations or persons granted the use of school premises shall assume the scheduled fee therefor, payable in advance, and the cost of such additional staff services as may be required.

No liability shall attach to the District or to any employee, officer or member of the District as a consequence of permitting access to school premises.

(Approval date: March 26, 2001)  
(Re-approval date: August 22, 2005)  
(Re-approval date: April 19, 2011)  
(Re-approval date: July 27, 2017)



## PUBLIC CONDUCT ON DISTRICT PROPERTY

All persons on District grounds are expected to abide by applicable laws, local ordinances, Board policies and building regulations.

No person on District property may assault, strike, threaten, menace or use improper, indecent or obscene language toward a teacher, instructor, other employees of the schools or students.

No person is permitted to bring deadly weapons or dangerous ordnances into a school safety zone.

No person may disrupt, disturb or interfere with the teaching of any class of students or any other activity conducted in a school building or upon the campus or grounds.

Whoever violates the above policy and building regulations will be asked to leave the property by whoever is in charge. Should that person refuse, the police will be called. If the offender should be a student, the person in charge should report the student to the appropriate principal. The administration cooperates in any prosecution pursuant to the criminal laws of the state of Ohio and local ordinances.

### Good Conduct and Sportsmanship

The Board recognizes the value of cocurricular and extracurricular activities in the educational process and the values that young people develop when they have the opportunity to participate in an organized activity outside of the classroom.

Students and adults participating in cocurricular and extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate responsible behavior and good conduct. The Board encourages the development and promotion of sportsmanship in all phases of the educational process, including athletics and all other cocurricular and extracurricular activities. Rules are posted at the entryways to all athletic events for all participants and spectators to review.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: Gun-Free Schools Act; 20 USC 1751  
Gun-Free School Zones Act; 18 USC 922  
ORC 2903.13; 2903.22  
2911.21  
2917.11  
2923.1212; 2923.122  
3313.20(A)

CROSS REFS.: GBCB, Staff Conduct  
IGD, Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities  
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)  
KG, Community Use of School Premises (Equal Access)  
KGC, No Tobacco Use on District Property  
KK, Visitors to the Schools

## NO TOBACCO USE ON DISTRICT PROPERTY

The Board has a duty to protect and promote the health and well-being of all students and staff. The Board is acutely aware of the serious health risks associated with the use of tobacco products, both to users and nonusers, and that most tobacco use begins by the age of 18. The Board recognizes that staff and school visitors serve as role models to students and, therefore, adopts this 100% tobacco-free District policy to endorse a healthy lifestyle and prevent tobacco use.

For the purpose of this policy, “tobacco” is defined to include any lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, bidi, clove cigarette and any other smoking product, and spit tobacco, also known as smokeless, dip, chew and snuff, in any form.

**For the purpose of this policy, electronic cigarettes are considered “tobacco.”**

### Tobacco Use Prohibited

No volunteer or school visitor is permitted to smoke, inhale, dip or chew tobacco at any time, including non-school hours:

1. in any building, facility or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by the District or
2. on school grounds, athletic facilities or parking lots.

### Tobacco Advertisements and Promotions

Tobacco advertising is prohibited on school grounds, in all school-sponsored publications and at all school-sponsored events. Tobacco promotional items that promote the use of tobacco products, including clothing, bags, lighters and other personal articles, are not permitted on school grounds, in school vehicles or at school-sponsored events.

### Providing Notice

“No Tobacco” signs will be posted throughout the District at entrances and other appropriate locations in all academic buildings, administrative spaces and athletic fields. District vehicles will display the international “No Smoking” insignia. Announcements will be made during home athletic events both before the event and during intermission, as well as at all school functions where deemed appropriate. School programs will include a written reminder of the no tobacco use on District property policy.

Enforcement

Citizens failing to comply with this policy are educated as to State law and the Board's policy on smoking. Persons refusing to extinguish smoking materials are directed to leave school property and may be fined by the Ohio Department of Health or its designees.

The following disciplinary actions may be taken against school visitors found in violation of this policy

1st offense: verbal notification of the policy

Multiple offenses: removal from school property or, if off-campus, removal from school activity

[Adoption date: July 27, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.  
Goals 2000: Educate America Act; 20 USC 6081 through 6084  
ORC 3313.20  
3794.01; 3794.02; 3794.04; 3794.06  
OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-05

CROSS REFS.: GBK, No Tobacco Use on District Property by Staff Members  
JFCG, Tobacco Use by Students  
KGB, Public Conduct on District Property

## PUBLIC GIFTS TO THE DISTRICT

Gifts, grants or bequests are accepted by the Board, provided the conditions of acceptance do not remove any portion of the control of the District from the Board.

Any person or organization desiring to give a gift or make a grant or bequest to the Board must contact the Superintendent, who submits the request to the Board.

Proposals for giving funds, equipment or materials to the District with a “matching” agreement or restriction are discouraged. Acceptance of donated equipment or materials may depend upon the compliance with, or experience related to, the Board’s policy of standardizing materials and equipment.

Whenever the District has an established project, contributions that reduce the cost or hasten the completion are welcome.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.20  
3313.17; 3313.36

CROSS REFS.: BHD, Board Member Compensation and Expenses  
FEE, Site Acquisition Procedure

## PUBLIC SOLICITATIONS IN THE SCHOOLS

No person may sell or offer for sale within school buildings or on school property any articles or services or solicit contributions except those approved by the Superintendent or the Board. This policy does not prohibit any school fundraising activity authorized by the Superintendent or other appropriate building administrator.

Salespeople representing educational companies may be granted the opportunity to speak to teachers by making arrangements through the principal's office. Such appointments must not interfere with the classroom work of the teachers.

The school directory or lists of students are not made available to any outside person or agency for a profit-making purpose.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]  
[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]  
[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]  
**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 2921.43  
3319.321

CROSS REFS.: GBI, Staff Gifts and Solicitations  
KG, Community Use of School Premises (Equal Access)  
KK, Visitors to the Schools

## ADVERTISING IN THE SCHOOLS

Notices, advertisements or written matter of any nature on behalf of persons or organizations not officially connected with the District shall not be distributed or displayed in any school building or on District property without permission of the Superintendent. All notices, including those by personnel, shall be approved by the building principal and, in case of doubt, by the Superintendent. Appeal of the Superintendent's decision may be made to the Board.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

**[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]**

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.20; 3313.47  
7 CFR, Subtitle B, Chapter 11, Part 210

CROSS REFS.: EDE, Computer/Online Services (Acceptable Use and Internet Safety)  
EFG, Student Wellness Program  
IGDB, Student Publications  
IIBH, District Websites  
KI, Public Solicitations in the Schools

## DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS IN THE SCHOOLS

The District recognizes that students and employees have the right to express themselves on school property. This protection includes the right to distribute, at a reasonable time and place and in a reasonable manner, non-school-sponsored material. In order to protect First Amendment rights, while at the same time preserving the integrity of the educational objectives and responsibilities of the District, the following requirements apply to the distribution of non-school-sponsored material on school property and at school activities.

### Prior Approval Required

Individuals or groups not affiliated with the District, who desire to distribute materials to the members of the school community, must first receive approval of such materials through the Superintendent/designee.

Students and staff members who desire to distribute materials to members of the school community must first receive approval from the building principal and when in doubt the Superintendent.

### Types of Material Restrictions

Materials must be approved if they fall under one of the following categories:

1. publications of services, special events, public meetings or other items of interest to students or parents/guardians;
2. distribution of promotional materials of a commercial nature to students or parents/guardians;
3. paid advertisements on District property, including but not limited to billboard advertisements;
4. paid advertisements on or in school-sponsored publications, yearbooks, announcements and other school communications and/or
5. products and materials donated by commercial enterprises for use in the classroom, as long as they serve an educational purpose and do not unduly promote any commercial activity or products.



### Manner and Mode of Distribution

The Superintendent/designee may approve the use of District time, personnel and resources in the distribution of materials if the materials are of an educational nature. The Superintendent will not, however, approve the use of District time, personnel or District resources for distribution if the materials are not of an educational nature and/or considered to be conducting business by soliciting participation, campaigning for membership or registering participants.

The building principals designate appropriate times, locations and means for which distribution of non-school-sponsored materials is appropriate. Determinations are made on a case-by-case basis.

Distribution with or without District involvement does not mean to imply sponsorship or support for that which the materials endorse. The District takes no responsibility for problems arising between the sponsoring individual or group and the student or staff member who accepts the materials.

### Limitations on Content

Non-school literature is not distributed on District property if:

1. the materials are obscene, vulgar or otherwise inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience;
2. the materials endorse actions endangering the health or safety of students;
3. the distribution of such materials would violate the intellectual property rights, privacy rights, or other rights of another person;
4. the materials contain defamatory statements about public figures or others;
5. the materials advocate imminent lawless or disruptive action and are likely to incite or produce such action;
6. the materials are hate literature or similar publications that scurrilously attack ethnic, religious or racial groups; contain content aimed at creating hostility and violence and the materials would materially and substantially interfere with school activities or the rights of others or
7. there is reasonable cause to believe that distribution of the non-school literature would result in material and substantial interference with school activities or the rights of others.

Failure to comply with this policy regarding distribution of non-school literature shall result in appropriate administrative action, including but not limited to confiscation of nonconforming materials and/or suspension of use of District facilities. Appropriate law enforcement officials may be called if a person refuses to comply with this policy or fails to leave the premises when asked.

[Adoption date: July 27, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: U.S. Const. Amend. I  
ORC 3313.20; 3313.47; 3313.66; 3313.661

CROSS REFS.: EDE, Computer/Online Services (Acceptable Use and Internet Safety)  
IGDB, Student Publications  
IIBH, District Websites  
KJ, Advertising in the Schools

## VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS

The Board encourages parents and other citizens of the District to visit classrooms to observe the work of the schools and to learn what the schools are doing. Visits should be scheduled with the teacher, in advance, to avoid any unnecessary disruption to classroom instruction or activities.

To maintain the safety of students and staff and to ensure that no unauthorized persons enter buildings, all visitors must first report to the main office to receive authorization to visit. (Authorization is not needed for school programs, assemblies, graduations and athletic events.)

All participants and spectators of school programs, assemblies, graduations and athletic events are expected to abide by all applicable laws, local ordinances, Board policies and District and building regulations pertaining to public conduct on District property.

School principals and their designees are authorized to take appropriate action to prevent and remove, if necessary, unauthorized persons from entering District buildings, loitering on the grounds and/or creating disturbances anywhere on District property.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: April 17, 2014]

**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REF.: ORC 3313.20(A)

CROSS REFS.: BG, Board-Staff Communications (Also GBD)  
KGB, Public Conduct on District Property  
KI, Public Solicitations in the Schools

## RECRUITERS IN THE SCHOOLS

All recruiters, military, employment and educational, are treated uniformly in the conduct of on-campus student recruitment. Scheduling of recruiting visits to the District is announced to the student body in advance. Recruiters are afforded the opportunity to conduct meetings during the school day with those students who are interested.

All group meetings are scheduled through the principal's office. Classroom teachers who schedule recruiters as a career awareness activity should coordinate these activities through the principal's office.

In order to maintain the privacy of students, the Board prohibits the disclosure of any student list to any commercial organization that intends to use the list for commercial purposes. "Student list" is defined as Board-approved directory information. "Commercial organization" is defined as any entity that is a for-profit organization. "Commercial purpose" is defined as any activity that is an attempt to solicit business for profit.

Names and addresses of students in grades 10 through 12 must be released to a recruiting officer of the armed forces unless a parent or student (age 18 or older) submits a written request not to release the information.

[Adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.  
20 USC 7908  
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; 20 USC Section 1232g  
National Defense Authorization Act: 10 USC 503: (P.L. No. 107)  
ORC 149.41; 149.43  
1347.01 et seq.  
3317.031  
3319.32; 3319.321  
3321.12; 3321.13  
3331.13

CROSS REFS.: JO, Student Records  
JOA, Student Surveys  
KBA, Public's Right to Know

## PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

Constructive criticism of the District is welcomed by the Board. Although no member of the community is denied the right to bring his/her complaints to the Board, he/she is referred to the proper administrative channels for solution before investigation or action by the Board. Exceptions may be made when the complaints concern Board actions or Board operations.

The Board believes that complaints and grievances are best handled and resolved as close to their origin as possible. The staff should be given the opportunity to consider the issues and attempt to resolve the problems prior to involvement by the Board. The proper channeling of complaints involving instruction, discipline or learning materials is employee, principal, the Superintendent and then the Board.

If a complaint that was presented to the Board and referred through the proper channels is resolved before it comes back to the Board, a report of the disposition of the matter is made to the Board and then placed in the official files.

The Board expects the staff to receive complaints courteously and to make a proper reply to the complainant.

Matters referred to the Superintendent and/or the Board must be in writing and are expected to be specific in terms of the action desired.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 121.22  
149.43

CROSS REFS.: KLB, Public Complaints About the Curriculum or Instructional Materials  
KLD, Public Complaints About District Personnel

## PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE CURRICULUM OR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The Board recognizes the need and right of students to free access to many different types of books and materials. It also recognizes the right of the certified staff to select books and other materials supportive of the Board's educational philosophy and goals.

Criticism of a book or other materials used in the District may be expected from time to time. In such instances, the following guidelines shall apply.

1. If a parent requests that his/her own child not read a given book, the teacher and/or school administrator should resolve the issue, perhaps by arranging for use of alternative material meeting essentially the same instructional purpose.
2. The Board does not permit any individual or group to exercise censorship over instructional materials and library collections, but it recognizes that, at times, a reevaluation of certain material may be desirable. Should an individual or group ask to have any book or other material withdrawn from school use, the following steps are taken.
  - A. The person who objects to the book or other material is asked to sign a complaint on a standard form documenting his/her criticism.
  - B. Following receipt of the formal complaint, the Superintendent provides for a reevaluation of the material in question. He/She arranges for the appointment of a review committee from among the faculty and community to consider the complaint.
  - C. The Superintendent reviews the complaint and the committee's reevaluation and renders a decision in the matter. Should the decision be unsatisfactory to the complainant, it may be appealed to the Board.

The Board assumes final responsibility for all books and instructional materials that it makes available to students, and it holds its certified staff accountable for their proper selections. The Board also recognizes rights of individual parents with respect to controversial materials used by their own children and provides for the reevaluation of materials in library collections upon formal request.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

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**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 121.22  
3329.07; 3329.08; 3329.09

CROSS REFS.: IIA, Instructional Materials  
IIAA, Textbook Selection and Adoption  
IIAC, Library Materials Selection and Adoption  
INB, Teaching About Controversial Issues  
KL, Public Complaints  
KLD, Public Complaints About District Personnel

CITIZEN'S REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF  
LIBRARY/CURRICULUM MATERIALS

Type of material (book, film, pamphlet, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Publisher (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Request initiated by \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Complainant represents: Self \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

1. To what do you object? (Be specific, cite pages, frames) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. What do you believe might be the result of reading or seeing this material? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. For what age group do you recommend this material? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Is there anything good about this material? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Did you read or see the entire material? \_\_\_\_\_

What parts? \_\_\_\_\_



6. Are you aware of the judgment of this material by professional critics? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What do you believe is the theme of this material? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What would you like your school to do about this material? \_\_\_\_\_

Do not assign it to my child.

Withdraw it from all students as well as my child.

Restrict it to more mature students.

Send it back for reevaluation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Complainant

## PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Complaints about personnel are investigated fully and fairly. Before any such complaint is investigated, it must be submitted in writing and signed. Anonymous complaints are disregarded.

Whenever a complaint is made directly to the Board as a whole or to a Board member as an individual, it is referred to the school administration for study and possible solution.

The Superintendent develops, for approval by the Board, procedures that ensure prompt and fair attention to complaints against school personnel. The procedure requires that an employee who is the object of a complaint be informed promptly and be afforded the opportunity to present the facts as he/she sees them.

If it appears necessary, the administration, the person who made the complaint or the employee involved may request an audience with the Board in executive session. Statutory restrictions on executive sessions are observed. Any Board action on the matter is taken in public session.

[Adoption date: March 26, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

**[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]**

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 121.22  
149.43

CROSS REFS.: BDC, Executive Sessions  
BDDH, Public Participation at Board Meetings (Also KD)  
GBL, Personnel Records  
KL, Public Complaints  
KLB, Public Complaints About the Curriculum or Instructional Materials

CONTRACT REFS.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement  
Classified Staff Negotiated Agreement

## PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT DISTRICT PERSONNEL

The following procedures are to ensure that a citizen's complaint is given respectful attention and that the integrity of the educational program is upheld. "Complaint" in this regulation is restricted in meaning to that criticism of a particular employee by a citizen of the District that includes or implies a demand for action by District authorities. Other comments and suggestions are referred informally to appropriate personnel.

1. If a complaint comes first to the person against whom it is directed, he/she listens and may try to resolve the difficulty by explaining the background and educational purpose involved. If the complaint remains unsatisfied, the employee refers the complainant to the building principal or other immediate supervisor to have his/her views considered further. Whether the complaint terminates with the individual staff member involved or seems likely to go further, the staff member immediately informs his/her supervisor of the complaint.
2. If a complaint comes first to the principal or other supervisor of the person criticized, the principal or supervisor should make no commitments, admissions of guilt or threats. If the complaint involves a particular employee, the supervisor should suggest a conference between the complainant and the employee criticized and should inform that employee immediately of the complaint. If the complainant has already met with the employee criticized and remains unsatisfied, the supervisor should invite the complainant to file the complaint in writing.
3. If a complaint comes first to any other school employee, that employee refers the complainant to the person criticized or to his/her immediate supervisor and immediately informs both.
4. No further action on the complaint should be taken unless the complainant submits the complaint in writing.
5. When a written complaint is received, the principal or other supervisor schedules a conference with the complainant, the person criticized and, if advisable, the department chairman or other personnel who, in the opinion of either the supervisor or the person criticized, could contribute to a resolution of the problem.
6. If the complainant is not satisfied with the results of the conference above, he/she should then be referred to the Superintendent, who may handle the complaint personally or refer it to other personnel, as he/she may see fit.
7. Should dissatisfaction remain after the above steps have been taken, the matter may be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The decision of the Board is communicated in writing to all interested persons.

(Approval date: March 26, 2001)  
(Re-approval date: August 22, 2005)  
(Re-approval date: April 19, 2011)  
(Re-approval date: July 27, 2017)

## RELATIONS WITH PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Board supports all organizations of parents whose objectives are to promote the educational experiences of District students. However, in using the name of the District or its schools and in organizing a group whose identity derives from a school(s) of the District, parent organizations share responsibility with the Board for the welfare of participating students.

Parent organizations desiring to use the name or offices of the District to organize students must obtain the approval of the Board as a prerequisite. Continued use of the school's name, logo, mascot, etc., is contingent upon compliance with all applicable Board policies and regulations.

Principals and staff members need to work closely with the officers of all parent organizations to provide a sustained system of activities that increase and enhance the educational opportunities for students. The activities must be integrated and balanced in accordance with the total District educational program and District goals and objectives and must comply with all State and local laws and regulations.

Parent organizations meeting the charitable trust filing requirements must file with the Ohio Attorney General and submit to the Superintendent a certificate indicating that filing requirements have been met.

Parent organizations that wish to construct anything on school property must have the permission of the Board in advance of the construction project. The organization must provide the Board, in writing, proof of financial stability and that funds are available for the construction project.

Acceptance of donated equipment or materials may depend upon the compliance with, or experience related to, the Board's policy of standardizing materials and equipment.

[Adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.17; 3313.20; 3313.36; 3313.47  
OAC 109:1-1-02

CROSS REFS.: AE, School District Goals and Objectives  
KG, Community Use of School Premises (Equal Access)  
KGB, Public Conduct on District Property  
KH, Public Gifts to the District  
KI, Public Solicitations in the Schools  
KJ, Advertising in the Schools  
KMB, Relations with Booster Organizations

## RELATIONS WITH BOOSTER ORGANIZATIONS

The Board recognizes that the endeavors and objectives of booster organizations can be a valuable means of stimulating interest and endorsement of the aims and achievements of the District. Booster-proposed plans, projects or activities must be evaluated and promoted in light of their stated contribution to the curricular as well as the extracurricular programs of the District. Careful consideration must be given to the total value of all students, rather than to specific elements such as teams and band participants. Care must be taken to avoid compromising or diluting the responsibility and authority of the Board.

Annually, booster organizations must submit to the Superintendent/designee their tentative goals, objectives, projects and/or activities along with their fundraising plans for the next school year for review by the Board. Should the goals and objectives or fundraising plans change during the school year, the Superintendent/designee is to be advised before any final revisions are made.

The Board retains final authority over all plans, projects and activities involving District students.

Booster organizations must abide by all District policies and rules as well as the following list.

1. Booster organizations should not use the school's tax ID number.
2. Booster organizations should not accept checks made out to the school and vice versa.
3. District officials should not have a leadership role in booster organizations.
4. Fundraising activities should not occur on school premises or during school hours unless permission has been given by the Superintendent/designee.
5. Documentation on ownership of property and fundraising activities is required.
6. The use of the District name and emblems must be authorized.
7. Booster organizations must submit their bylaws as well as quarterly reports on income, expenses and balance sheets to the Superintendent for review and approval.
8. Booster organizations meeting the charitable trust filing requirements must file with the Ohio Attorney General and submit to the Superintendent a certificate indicating that filing requirements have been met.

Booster organizations must have permission from the Board prior to any construction of facilities. The organization must provide the Board, in writing, that funds are available to complete the project.

Acceptance of donated equipment or materials may depend upon the compliance with, or experience related to, the Board's policy of standardizing materials and equipment.

[Adoption date: August 22, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: April 19, 2011]

[Re-adoption date: July 27, 2017]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.20; 3313.47  
OAC 109:1-1-02

CROSS REFS.: IGDG, Student Activities Funds Management  
IGDH, Contests for Students  
KG, Community Use of School Premises (Equal Access)  
KGB, Public Conduct on District Property  
KH, Public Gifts to the District  
KI, Public Solicitations in the Schools  
KK, Visitors to the Schools  
KMA, Relations with Parent Organizations