

Community Relations

Staff Participation in Community Activities

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

Policy adopted: August 27, 2008

POMFRET PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Pomfret, Connecticut

Community Relations

Political Activities of School Employees

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

District staff members shall not use school time, school property or school resources or equipment for the purpose of furthering the interests of any political party, the campaign of any political candidate or the advocacy of any political issue.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

7-421 Political activities of classified municipal employees.

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

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

Policy adopted: August 27, 2008

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Political Activities in the Schools

The Board of Education strongly supports the concepts of representative government and elected office. The Board expresses its admiration for those who seek and obtain public office. Further, the Board recognizes that the public schools are tax-supported and should be accessible to the community. The Board, however, does believe that the educational process should be clearly separate from the political activities associated with campaigns for public office.

Therefore, political activities in the schools during school hours shall be restricted to those of an educational nature that are beneficial to students as part of their program of study.

- (cf. 1140 – Distribution of Materials by Students)
- (cf. 1311.1 – Political Activities of School Employees)
- (cf. 3515 – Community Use of School Facilities)
- (cf. 3543.13 – Mail and Delivery)
- (cf. 4118.21 – Academic Freedom)
- (cf. 6144 – Controversial Issues)
- (cf. 6153.2 – Student Participation in Election Process)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 7-421 Political activities of classified municipal employees.
 7-421b Limitation on restriction of political rights of municipal employees.
 9-369b Explanatory text relating to local questions.
 10-156e Employees of boards of education permitted to serve as elected
 officials; exception
 10-239 Use of school facilities for other purposes
 31-51q Liability of employer for discipline or discharge of employee on
 account of employee's exercise of certain constitutional rights.
 Keyishian v. Board of Regents 395 U.S. 589, 603 (1967)
 Academic Freedom Policy (adopted by Connecticut State Board of
 Education, 9/9/81)
 Equal Access Act, 20 U.S.C. ss 4071-4074

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