

POLICY

ROCKAWAY BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Public Relations

9100 PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Board of Education believes that school district community relations is not solely an information program, but encompasses all aspects of the schools' relationship with the total community.

The Board of Education believes its school-community relations program should:

1. Promote public interest and participation in the operation of the school system;
2. Gather information about public attitudes toward the school system and its programs and report them to the Superintendent and the Board;
3. Provide an honest, continuous, comprehensive flow of information about the policies, procedures, programs, problems and progress of the school system to the community and the staff;
4. Develop the most effective means of communication with the school system's public and use available media as appropriate;
5. Develop programs in the schools that will integrate home, school, and community in meeting the needs of district pupils;
6. Develop and maintain the confidence of the community in the school Board and the school staff;
7. Develop a climate that attracts good teachers and encourages staff to strive for excellence in the educational program;
8. Anticipate and forestall problems that are brought about by lack of understanding; and
9. Evaluate past procedures in order to make improvements in future communications.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for developing programs, techniques and channels for implementing this policy.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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ROCKAWAY BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Public Relations Program

9120 PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

The Board of Education believes all reasonable means should be employed to keep the community served by the school district informed on matters of importance regarding district programs, finances, personnel, policies, and operations.

The Board will determine which of its official actions have sufficient community impact and interest to warrant special release; the Board alone will release to the news media information about those matters of importance. The Board President may release information regarding Board actions of lesser importance as they have been recorded in the minutes of the Board meetings and upon the request of media representatives. The release of all other publications, photographs, and documents depicting the accomplishments of the pupils and staff of the district shall be approved by the Superintendent of Schools or designee.

The school district will not release or publish photographs or release other personal identifying information of an individual district pupil without the prior written permission of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or from the adult pupil. Written permission slips for such release from each parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or adult pupil will be obtained by the Principal or designee for the pupils in their school building or by the Program Administrator for pupils in programs where a Principal is not assigned. These written permission forms shall be maintained by the Principal or Program Administrator. Group photographs may be released by the district without permission, but in no event will an individual pupil in a group photograph be identified by name and/or by other personal identifier without written permission from the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or adult pupil.

The Superintendent of Schools shall direct an information program designed to acquaint residents of the community and the public generally with the achievements and the needs of the schools. As a minimum, information shall be disseminated regarding the district's educational goals; the district's guarantee of equal educational opportunity; the district's programs for basic skills improvement, special education, bilingual education, and English as a second language; and summary reports of the administration of statewide assessment tests. Every effort shall be made to foresee and avoid problems caused by misunderstanding or lack of information.

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Public Relations Program

The public information program may include the publication and distribution of a district newsletter, meetings with parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and interested residents, a presentation and interpretation of the proposed annual budget, periodically distributed calendars and notices of events, the Superintendent's annual report, and a pupil handbook, as well as the release of news and photographs of school activities for publication. Notices, publications, and other written materials may be prepared in languages other than English when necessary and appropriate for understanding.

The Board of Education adopts the following strategies to minimize the cost of public relations as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.3(c)14 in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2. School district publications shall be produced and distributed in the most cost-efficient manner possible that will enable the school district to inform and educate the target community. The use of expensive materials or production techniques where lower cost methods are available and appropriate, such as the use of multi-color glossy publications instead of suitable, less expensive alternatives, is prohibited.

The school district will not distribute, via mass mailings or other means to the district community at large, publications that include the picture(s) of any members of the Board of Education within ninety days before any election in which any Board member is seeking any elective office or any election relating to school district operations held in the district. Any publication(s) distributed by the Board via mass mailings or other means to the district community at large within sixty days before any election in which any Board member is seeking any elective office or any election relating to school district operations held in the district must be submitted to the Executive County Superintendent for review prior to distribution to ensure that the public funds are being expended in a reasonable and cost-effective manner.

Public relations activities, such as booths at Statewide conferences, marketing activities and celebrations for opening schools and community events, and TV productions that are not part of the instructional program or do not provide information about district or Board operations to the public, that are excessive in nature are prohibited. All activities involving promotional efforts to advance a particular position on school elections or any referenda are prohibited.

Nothing in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2 and this Policy shall preclude the school district from accepting donations or volunteer services from community members, local private education foundations and local business owners to conduct or assist in public relations services. Examples include, but are not limited to: providing school district flyers, newsletters, or other materials containing school-related information of public concern to local businesses, public meeting places, or other local organizations to display or make available for dissemination; making school district related information of public concern

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available to local newspapers to publish related articles; and utilizing volunteered services of local community members, district employees, members of parent organizations or local businesses with expertise in related areas such as printing, advertising, publishing, or journalism.

The Board of Education will establish annually prior to budget preparation, a maximum dollar limit for public relation, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.3(c)14. In the event it becomes necessary to exceed the established maximum dollar limit for public relations, the Superintendent of Schools shall recommend to the Board of Education an increase in the maximum dollar amount for public relations. Any increase in the maximum dollar amount shall require formal Board action.

N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2

Adopted: 17 November 2009

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Public Complaints and Grievances

9130 PUBLIC COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Any person or group having a legitimate interest in the schools of this district may present a request, suggestion, or complaint concerning district personnel, the educational program, instructional or resource materials, or the operations of the district. The Board directs the establishment of procedures for the hearing and settlement of requests and complaints that provide a means for resolving them fairly and impartially, permit appropriate redress, and protect district personnel from unnecessary harassment.

When a Board member is confronted with an issue, he/she will withhold comment, commitment and/or opinion and refer the complaint or inquiry to the Superintendent, who shall review the complaint according to established procedures.

Only in those cases where satisfactory adjustment cannot be made by the Superintendent and the staff shall communications and complaints be referred to the Board for resolution.

Any misunderstandings or disputes between the public and school district staff should, whenever possible, be settled by direct, informal discussions among the interested parties. It is only when such informal meetings fail to resolve differences that more formal procedures shall be employed. A complaint about a school program or personnel should be addressed to the Building Principal; a complaint about instructional or resource materials should be addressed to the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall establish procedures for the hearing of requests and complaints regarding district personnel, the educational program, instructional and resource materials, and the operation of the school district. Procedures will be governed by the following guidelines:

1. The matter will be resolved initially, wherever possible, by informal discussions between or among the interested parties.
2. A matter that cannot be resolved informally may be appealed at successive levels of authority, up to and including the Board of Education.

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Public Complaints and Grievances

3. The complaint and its immediate resolution will be reduced to writing at the first and at each successive level of appeal.
4. A reasonable period of time, not to exceed three working days, will be permitted for the filing of an appeal in writing at each successive level. A decision at each level of appeal must be rendered in writing no later than seven working days after the appeal is filed, except that the Board shall have forty-five calendar days to make its decision.
5. In the case of complaints about instructional or resource materials, the initial complaint must set forth in writing the author, title, and publisher of the materials as well as those specific portions of the material or the work to which objection is taken; the complainant's familiarity with the work; the reasons for the objection; and the use of the work in the schools. The Superintendent shall appoint a committee of professional staff members and community representatives to review the challenged material against the standards for the selection of resource materials established by Board policy. The committee will report its findings to the Board. No challenged material may be removed from the curriculum or from a collection of resource materials except by action of the Board of Education, and no challenged material may be removed solely because it presents ideas that may be unpopular or offensive to some. Any Board action to remove material will be accompanied by the Board's statement of its reasons for the removal.
6. A complainant shall be notified that a decision of the Board may be appealed to the Commissioner of Education.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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9140 CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEES

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9140 CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Board of Education encourages communication between the school district and the community at large. Citizens advisory committees may be useful in keeping the Board and the administration informed with regard to community opinion and in representing the community.

The Board may establish a citizens advisory committee to provide input to the Board and the administration from the community for funded programs as the law requires and as the Board sees fit.

In creating a new citizens advisory committee, the Board may appoint: members of the community who are able and interested in the subject and concerned about the schools; members who represent a wide range of community interests and backgrounds; a chairperson; one or more Board members; and school staff members. The Board President or designee and the Superintendent or designee shall serve as members of the citizens advisory committee.

In charging a new citizens advisory committee, the Board shall define the citizens advisory committee assignment in writing, set a date for report(s) to the Board, and establish a budget, if needed. Expenditures of district funds by a citizens advisory committee shall be made upon the approval of the Superintendent.

Recommendations of citizens advisory committee shall not reduce the responsibility of the Board, which may accept, reject, or modify a citizens advisory committee's recommendation(s) in the exercise of its statutory discretion.

Meetings of citizens advisory committee that are attended by fewer than a majority of the members of the Board are not subject to the Open Public Meetings Act and need not be open to the public, except as expressly permitted by the Board.

Adopted: December 12, 2023

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Citizens Advisory Committees

In district-initiated advisory committees, the Superintendent shall draft procedures for instructing committees as to the length of time each member is being asked to serve, the services the Board wishes them to render, the resources the Board intends to provide, and the approximate date on which the Board wishes to dissolve the committee. Furthermore, the committee shall be instructed as to the relationship it has to the Board, to the individual Board members, to the Secretary of the Board, to the Superintendent, and to the rest of the professional staff.

N.J.A.C. 6:30-1.5; 6:31-1.14(b)
20 U.S.C.A. 3801 et seq.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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School Visitors**

9150 SCHOOL VISITORS

The Board of Education welcomes and encourages visits to school by parent(s) or legal guardian(s), other adult residents of the community, and interested educators. In order for the educational program to continue undisturbed when visitors are present and to prevent the intrusion of disruptive persons into the schools, the Board directs the enforcement of rules governing school visits.

The Superintendent and Building Principal each possess the authority to prohibit the entry of any person into a school of this district or to expel any person from the school when there is reason to believe the presence of such person would be inimical to the good order of the school. If such a person refuses to leave the school grounds or creates a disturbance, the Principal is authorized to request from the local law enforcement agency whatever assistance is required to remove the individual.

Visitors shall be required to register their presence in the school. No staff member shall transact business with or permit the continuing presence in the school of a visitor who has not been duly registered.

No visitor may confer with a pupil in school without the approval of the Principal; any such conference may take place only in the presence of a teaching staff member and/or administrator.

When the parental rights of a parent have been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction, the legal guardian must inform the school so that the administration may apply appropriate regulations. The Principal shall seek confirmation of legal custodianship where necessary.

The Superintendent shall develop regulations that will protect pupils and employees of the district from disruption to the educational program and the efficient conduct of their assigned tasks.

N.J.S.A. 2C:18-3
N.J.S.A. 18A:17-42; 18A:20-1; 18A:20-34

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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Crowd Control

9161 CROWD CONTROL

The Board of Education believes in order to achieve its goals for interscholastic competition that the student body and the general public attending an interscholastic event conduct themselves in such a manner as to make a positive contribution toward the educational objectives of this district.

The Board directs the Superintendent to prepare regulations for pupil and public behavior at interscholastic events and to publicly post such regulations and to devise procedures for the control of crowds.

The Board authorizes school officials to have expelled from any district event by the law enforcement officers on duty, any spectator who willfully violates the rules and regulations of the district or whose behavior jeopardizes the safe conduct of the event. Further, any spectator involved in continual violations of the rules and regulations shall be prohibited from attending further school events.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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ROCKAWAY BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

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School Volunteers

9180 SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Education recognizes the services of volunteers can enrich the educational program, assist teaching staff members in the performance of their duties, and enhance the relationship between the school district and the community. The Board authorizes a program for the utilization of volunteer services in the school(s) of the school district.

An unpaid volunteer, as defined below, shall be required to complete a criminal history record check. The Board of Education will administer the criminal history record check for the volunteer in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.2.

For the purpose of this Policy, a “volunteer” is a person who is not paid by the Board of Education, who assists with classroom or other school activities under the direct supervision of an appropriately certified or licensed school district employee, and provides assistance for school activities on a “regular basis” throughout the school year.

For the purpose of this Policy, “regular basis” means volunteering services more than 10 occasions during a school year.

For the purpose of this Policy, a “volunteer” is not a person who is invited into a school and provides occasional assistance for school activities, chaperones a class trip, or assists with classroom or other school activities less than 10 (same as above) occasions during the school year.

The Superintendent or designee shall determine if a person meets or will meet the requirements to be a “volunteer” for the purpose of this Policy.

A volunteer must be approved by the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

The Principal or designee shall be responsible for the recruitment and screening of volunteers, may delegate the assignment of volunteers to specific tasks, and must submit their names for Board approval.

Volunteers must be persons of known character, responsibility, and integrity

Neither the Superintendent nor any Principal shall be obligated to utilize the proffered services of a volunteer whose abilities or interests do not serve the needs of pupils.

Each school volunteer shall be given a copy of this Policy and the rules of conduct.

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School Volunteers

The following guidelines shall govern the service of school volunteers:

1. Volunteers may serve only under the direction and supervision of an appropriately certified or licensed staff member;
2. Volunteers should clearly understand their duties and responsibilities and perform no service outside those duties;
3. Volunteers serve only in a support capacity; only appropriately certified or licensed staff members are responsible for educational planning and decisions and the teaching of new concepts;
4. Volunteers shall respect the individuality, dignity, and worth of each child;
5. Volunteers are not permitted access to pupil records;
6. Volunteers should exercise discretion in discussing their school activities with others in the community and must maintain confidential any information that if disclosed would violate Federal and State laws;
7. Volunteers may consult with the Principal regarding their duties and responsibilities; and
8. Volunteers shall receive no financial remuneration from the Board.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1; 18A:6-7.2

Adopted: January 19, 2012

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9181 Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity

Advisors/Assistants

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9181 VOLUNTEER ATHLETIC COACHES AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY ADVISORS/ASSISTANTS

The Board of Education recognizes the services of volunteer athletic coaches and co-curricular activity advisors/assistants bring unique skills to the district, enrich the athletic and co-curricular program, assist district coaching and co-curricular staff members in the performance of their duties, and enhance the relationship between the school district and the community. Therefore, the Board authorizes a program for the utilization of volunteer athletic coaches and co-curricular activity advisors/assistants in the district.

For the purposes of this Policy, “volunteer athletic coach and co-curricular activity advisor/assistant” is a person who is not paid by the Board, assisting under the direct supervision of an appropriately certified or licensed school district employee, and provides assistance for the school activity.

The Superintendent of Schools or designee will be responsible for the recruitment and screening of volunteer athletic coaches and co-curricular activity advisors/assistants and their assignment. The district is not obligated to utilize the proffered services of a volunteer as determined by the Superintendent.

These volunteers must be recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board prior to assuming any responsibilities.

The Superintendent or designee will prepare and promulgate rules of conduct for volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants. Each volunteer athletic coach and co-curricular activity advisor/assistant will be given a copy of this Policy.

The following guidelines shall govern the service of a volunteer athletic coach and volunteer co-curricular activity advisor/assistant:

1. Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants may serve only under the direction and direct supervision of an appropriately certified or licensed head and/or assistant coach or activity advisor or assistant employed by the Board;

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2. Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants must clearly understand their duties and responsibilities and perform no services outside those duties;
3. Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants serve only in a support capacity and only head or assistant coaches or activity advisors or assistants employed by the Board are responsible for the supervision and instruction provided to students participating in athletic programs or co-curricular activities;
4. Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants shall respect the individuality, dignity, and worth of each student;
5. Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants are not permitted access to student records;
6. Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants must not disclose any confidential student matters the volunteer athletic coach or volunteer activity advisor/assistant becomes aware of as a result of their volunteer responsibilities;
7. Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants shall consult with the Superintendent or designee regarding any matters or questions regarding their duties and responsibilities;
8. Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants shall receive no financial remuneration from the Board; and
9. Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants may be immediately relieved of their volunteer responsibilities, with or without cause, by the Superintendent with such action to be recommended to the Board by the Superintendent at the next Board meeting following relief of duties.

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9181 Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity

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Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants will be screened for tuberculosis in accordance with the current New Jersey Department of Health Guidance for Tuberculosis (TB) Testing in New Jersey Schools.

Volunteer athletic coaches and volunteer co-curricular activity advisors/assistants will be required to participate in all mandated trainings required for their position and any other trainings as required by the Superintendent or designee.

At minimum, every volunteer must obtain a criminal history record check to be reimbursed or paid for by the board.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1; 18A:6-7.2

Adopted: January 28, 2025

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Community Organizations

9190 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The Board will draw on the knowledge and opinions of the community in developing mandated policies and programs in compliance with statute and administrative code, and to aid in meeting the district's identified needs.

The Board of Education encourages local businesses and individual residents who are especially qualified because of training, experience or interest to take an active part in the district's educational programs. Those persons and representatives of businesses identified by the Superintendent and the staff and approved by the Board may be invited to act as advisors in groups or individually in appropriate circumstances and situations.

The district shall also take advantage of the physical and financial resources of the community and of organizations including business when such facilities or locations provide learning and enrichment opportunities not otherwise available to our pupils. Pupil safety shall be a primary concern in making use of such resources.

In accordance with law, the administration shall identify and establish working relationships with community agencies which are involved in evaluation and treatment of drug/alcohol problems.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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Booster Clubs

9191 BOOSTER CLUBS

The Board of Education recognizes that the support offered by booster clubs can benefit the school district. Because the activities of booster clubs also reflect on the district, the Board establishes guidelines for the operation of booster clubs in order to ensure that their activities assist in the attainment of district goals and objectives.

A booster club that is organized for the purpose of endorsing and supporting a school sponsored activity shall:

1. Be incorporated as a nonprofit organization;
2. Enter into a contract with this Board for the conduct of intended activities;
3. Obtain liability insurance indemnifying the Board against all suits arising from the conduct of club activities;
4. Account to the Board for all funds raised through the conduct of school related activities;
5. Utilize all funds raised through the conduct of school related activities for the benefit of school programs;
6. Certify adherence to the policies of the school district;
7. Request permission of the Board before taking any group of pupils on a trip; and
8. Obtain the approval of the Superintendent before raising funds in the name of the district.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as the Board's assumption of responsibility for any activity conducted by a booster club.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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Cooperation Between Parents and School

9200 COOPERATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND SCHOOL

The Board of Education believes that the education of children is a joint responsibility that the Board shares with the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of pupils. To ensure that the best interests of the child are served in this process, a strong program of communication between home and school must be maintained.

It is the position of the Board that parent(s) or legal guardian(s) bear the ultimate responsibility for their children's in-school behavior, including the behavior of pupils who have reached the legal age of majority, but are still for all practical purposes under parental authority.

The Board directs that cooperation be encouraged by parent-teacher conferences that permit two-way communication between home and school; open houses in district schools that provide parent(s) or legal guardian(s) with the opportunity to see the school facilities, meet the faculty, and observe the program on a first hand basis; meetings of staff members and groups of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of those pupils having special abilities, needs, or problems; and special events of a cultural, ethnic, or topical nature, which are initiated by parent groups, involve the cooperative effort of pupils and parent(s) or legal guardian(s), and are of general interest to the schools or community.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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9210 PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Board of Education will encourage and support parent organizations whose objectives are to promote the educational interests of district students.

Parent organizations are organizations independent from the Board of Education. Therefore, parent organizations shall not make any representations their organization or activities are sponsored or endorsed by the Board of Education without prior approval of the Board of Education. A parent organization shall submit a request for sponsorship or endorsement of a specific activity to the Board of Education.

A parent organization may not organize students, sponsor school activities, or solicit money in the name of this school district or of any school in the district without the prior approval of the Superintendent or designee. Such approval must be sought by written application to the Superintendent or designee.

Representatives of recognized parent organizations shall be treated by district employees as interested friends of the schools and as supporters of public education in the school district. Representatives of recognized parent organizations shall comply with all applicable Board policies.

The Board relies upon parent organizations to operate in a manner consistent with public expectations for the schools and reserves the right to withdraw recognition from any parent organization, at will, whose actions are inimical to the interests of the school district and the students of this district.

Adopted: 15 October 2019

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Parental Responsibilities

9230 PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board of Education believes that children benefit when parent(s) or legal guardian(s) recognize and discharge a responsibility to encourage and support the learning process.

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) can help children learn by:

1. Requiring that children obey all school rules and by accepting responsibility for a child's improper conduct;
2. Sending children to school with proper attention to health, personal cleanliness, and dress;
3. Maintaining an active interest in each child's daily work and making it possible for the child to complete assigned homework by providing a quiet place and suitable conditions for study;
4. Reading communications from the school and signing and returning them promptly when so requested;
5. Attending conferences arranged for the exchange of information on the child's progress in school; and
6. Scheduling family matters to minimize interference with school time.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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Rights of Parents

9240 RIGHTS OF PARENTS

The Board of Education recognizes that the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of each child are ultimately responsible for the care and custody of that child, and that both parent(s) or legal guardian(s) share that responsibility equally. The Board recognizes as well that, where only one parent has legal custody of a child, the rights and responsibilities of the other parent may be limited. The Board believes that the interests of the child are best served by the continuing involvement of both parents in the child's life and well-being.

The Board will presume that each natural or adoptive parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a pupil enrolled in this district possesses full parental rights of access to the pupil and to information about the pupil, notwithstanding any separation of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or dissolution of their marriage. Accordingly, and in the absence of notice to the contrary, the Board directs that school administrators accommodate the needs of both parent(s) or legal guardian(s) for access to their child, to their child's teachers, and to information about their child.

Every parent, except as prohibited by federal and state law, shall have access to records and information pertaining to his/her unemancipated child, including, but not limited to, medical, dental, insurance, child care and educational records, whether or not the child resides with the parent, unless that access is found by the court to be not in the best interest of the child or the access is found by the court to be sought for the purpose of causing detriment to the other parent.

The place of residence of either parent shall not appear on any records or information released pursuant to the provisions of this section.

A child's parent(s), guardian(s) or legal custodian(s) may petition the court to have a parent's access to the records limited. If the court, after a hearing, finds that the parent's access to the record is not in the best interest of the child or that the access sought is for the purpose of causing detriment to the other parent, the court may order that access to the records be limited. Proper notice of court action consists of the

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custodial parent's sworn affidavit or certification supported by a copy of the pertinent portion of a legal agreement or court order that awards custody and establishes the rights and limitation of the noncustodial parent or terminates the parental rights of the noncustodial parent.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed as limiting in any way the rights of the noncustodial parent whose parental rights have not been terminated to full access to his/her child's records.

N.J.S.A. 18A:35-4.6 et seq.; 18A:47-4; 18A:47-8
N.J.A.C. 6A:14-1.3; 6A:14-2.9; 6A:32-7.1; 6A:32-7.5

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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Parental Liability for Vandalism

9260 PARENTAL LIABILITY FOR VANDALISM

The school property held in trust by this Board of Education represents a substantial investment of the taxpayers of the school district; liability for the willful and malicious destruction of that property should be borne by those directly and indirectly responsible.

The Board further believes that parent(s) or legal guardian(s) are ultimately responsible for the supervision and discipline of pupils and that the knowledge that they are vicariously liable for the acts of their children and wards will encourage parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to exercise that responsibility more vigorously.

Where any property, real or personal, owned by this Board has been willfully and maliciously damaged by any minor, whether or not the person is enrolled in this district, the Board shall bring civil action against the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) having legal custody and control of the person at the time the damage was caused, for the full amount of the damage.

N.J.S.A. 18A:37-3

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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Home Schooling and Equivalent Education

Outside the Schools

9270 HOME SCHOOLING AND EQUIVALENT EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE SCHOOLS

The Board of Education encourages the enrollment of all children of school age resident in the district in public schools or in approved private schools so that they may enjoy the benefits of a well-planned educational program and the socialization possible in a group environment.

Every parent, legal guardian or other person having custody and control of a child between the ages of six and sixteen years shall cause such child regularly to attend the public school or a day school in which there is given instruction equivalent to that provided in the public schools for children of similar grades and attainments or to receive equivalent instruction elsewhere than at school. The Board recognizes its responsibility for assuring that every child of school age resident in the district is enrolled in a public or private school or is offered an equivalent thorough and efficient education elsewhere than at school. The Board acknowledges that a parents, guardian, or other person having custody and control of a child has a constitutional right to choose the type and character of education they feel is best suited for their child(ren), be it secular or sectarian. Home schooling is an option and when chosen this option will be carried out in the pupil's home rather than the school.

In the event the Superintendent determines there is credible evidence the parent, legal guardian, or other person having custody and control of a school-aged child is not causing the child to receive equivalent instruction elsewhere than at school, the Superintendent may request a letter of intent from the parent, legal guardian, or other person confirming the child is receiving equivalent instruction elsewhere than at school. The Superintendent may report to the appropriate municipal authorities children whom he/she has reason to believe are not receiving an education in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25

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Home Schooling and Equivalent Education

Outside the Schools

The New Jersey Department of Education encourages the parent, legal guardian, or other person having custody and control of a school-aged child to notify the Superintendent of the intent to educate the child elsewhere than at school to avoid questions with respect to compliance with the compulsory education laws.

The parent or legal guardian or other person having custody and control of a child between the ages of six and sixteen, who fails to comply with any of the compulsory education provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:38 et seq. relating to his/her duties, shall be deemed to be a disorderly person and shall be subject to a fine.

If a child seeks admission to this school district from a program of home schooling, the school district will evaluate the work of the child to determine his/her appropriate grade placement. The Superintendent or designee will objectively evaluate the child's skill and achievement levels, as it would with any transfer pupil, before making a determination as to the acceptability of credits and/or the appropriate grade level placement.

When children are home schooled and are not enrolled in a school, the school district is not required to provide any of the entitlements or privileges of pupils enrolled in the school district unless an entitlement or privilege is specifically provided in Board Policy or required by Federal law, or State statute or administrative code. The school district's curriculum and other public record information will be provided to the parent, legal guardian, or other person having custody and control of a child upon request in accordance with the Open Public Records Act and Policy and Regulation 8310.

A child educated at home shall not receive a State endorsed high school diploma from the Board of Education.

N.J.S.A. 18A:38-25 through 18A:38-31

U.S.C.A. 1401 et seq.

New Jersey Department of Education – Frequently Asked Questions:

Home Schooling

Adopted: July 2016

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Parent Conferences

9280 PARENT CONFERENCES

The Board of Education endorses the parent-teacher conference as an effective means of permitting parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and teachers to share information about pupils and the educational program in a constructive setting.

The Superintendent is directed to schedule parent-teacher conferences at such times as will permit the maximum attendance of parent(s) or legal guardian(s), including working parent(s) or legal guardian(s); to encourage the participation of parent(s) or legal guardian(s); and to provide in-service training to teachers to assist them in making most effective use of the conference.

The Board believes that the information exchanged in parent-teacher conferences can be of great importance to the pupil's ability to profit educationally; such conferences are, therefore, an essential part of the instructional program and an integral part of a teacher's professional responsibility. Accordingly, all teachers are required to attend the parent conferences scheduled for the children assigned to them. A teacher's failure to observe this policy may be cause for discipline.

The Board regards parent-teacher conferences as non-adversarial meetings in which all persons present are united in a common interest in the educational well-being of the pupil. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the pupil may bring to the conference additional persons who share that interest and wish to aid the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and the teacher. When a parent(s) or legal guardian(s) desires the representation of legal counsel at the conference, however, the Board may wish to be similarly represented. Accordingly, the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) who plans to bring legal counsel to a parent-teacher conference shall notify the school Principal of that intention no later than five working days in advance of the conference in order that the Superintendent may secure such legal representation as he/she may deem advisable.

The purposes of the parent-teacher conference are best served when all persons present share freely and candidly their knowledge of the pupil's educational progress and information relating to that progress. Any person present may make and preserve notes, for his/her benefit, of the information shared and may, if permitted, make a tape recording of the conference as

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Parent Conferences

an aid to memory or to share with an absent parent or legal guardian. Because the presence of the tape recorder may act to impede the free exchange necessary to an effective conference, however, either the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or the teacher may refuse the other's request that a tape recorder be used.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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Cooperation with Municipal Agencies

9310 COOPERATION WITH MUNICIPAL AGENCIES

The Board of Education recognizes the separate but complementary roles played by this Board and by the Borough of Rockaway in the development of a budget and the levy of local taxes sufficient to provide a thorough and efficient system of free public education. Accordingly, the Board directs the implementation of a program of communication and cooperation between this district and municipal authorities.

The Board will offer to meet with municipal officials to review the budget before the public hearing, appoint a liaison representative from the Board to attend meetings of the Borough of Rockaway.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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P- 9320**

COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (M)

The Board of Education recognizes that keeping students and staff safe and helping children understand and respect the law is best served by a close and cooperative relationship with local law enforcement.

The Board adopts this Policy and Regulation 9320 in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1. to ensure cooperation between school staff and law enforcement authorities in all matters relating to the unlawful possession, distribution and disposition of controlled dangerous substances, including anabolic steroids, as defined in N.J.S.A. 24:21-2 and N.J.S.A. 2C:35-2, drug paraphernalia as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:36-1, alcoholic beverages; firearms, as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1.f.; and other deadly weapons as defined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1.r.

The Board adopts Policy and Regulation 9320 in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1. to ensure cooperation between school district staff and law enforcement authorities in all matters relating to the planning and conduct of law enforcement activities and operations occurring on school grounds, including arrest procedures, undercover school operations, and mandatory reporting the offenses listed in the Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials (MOA).

The Superintendent or designee shall institute a program of such communication and cooperation with law enforcement in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1.

This Policy and Regulation 9320 shall be submitted for review and approval to the Executive County Superintendent in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2(a)2.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually review the MOA as adopted by the Board to ensure this Policy and Regulation 9320 are in accordance with the requirements outlined therein.

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1.; 6A:16-6.2; 6A:16-6.4.

Adopted: June 14, 2022

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9323 NOTIFICATION OF JUVENILE OFFENDER CASE DISPOSITION

Principals have a need to receive and have access to juvenile justice proceedings involving juveniles who are registered students in the school building. The Principal or designee shall have access to information relating to juvenile justice proceedings in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60.

The Principal or designee, on a confidential basis, may request from law enforcement agencies at the time of charge, adjudication, or disposition, information as to the identity of a juvenile student charged, the offense charged, the adjudication, and the disposition. The Principal or designee may inform school staff members of this information if the Principal or designee deems it appropriate for maintaining order, safety, or discipline in the school or for planning programs relevant to the juvenile's educational and social development. This information will not become part of the juvenile student's permanent school record and shall not be maintained except as authorized by regulation of the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE).

A law enforcement or prosecuting agency shall, at the time of a charge, adjudication, or disposition, send written notice to the Principal or designee of the school where the juvenile is enrolled, of the identity of the juvenile charged, the offense charged, the adjudication, and the disposition if:

1. The offense occurred on school property or a school bus, occurred at a school-sponsored function, or was committed against an employee or official of the school;
2. The juvenile was taken into custody as a result of information or evidence provided by school officials; or
3. The offense, if committed by an adult, would constitute a crime, and the offense:
 - a. Resulted in death or serious bodily injury or involved an attempt or conspiracy to cause death or serious bodily injury;
 - b. Involved the unlawful use or possession of a firearm or other weapon;

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- c. Involved the unlawful manufacture, distribution, or possession with intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance or controlled substance analog; ~~or~~
- d. Was committed by a juvenile who acted with a purpose to intimidate an individual or group of individuals because of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, or; or
- e. Would be a crime of the first, second, or third degree.

Information provided to the Principal or designee pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60.d. shall be treated as confidential but may be made available to such members of the staff and faculty of the school as the Principal or designee deems appropriate for maintaining order, safety, or discipline in the school or for planning programs relevant to a juvenile's educational and social development. This information will not become part of the juvenile student's permanent school record and shall not be maintained except as authorized by regulation of the NJDOE.

Law enforcement or the prosecuting agency may provide the Principal ~~or~~ designee with information identifying one or more juvenile students who are under investigation or have been taken into custody for the commission of any act that would constitute an offense if committed by an adult when the law enforcement or prosecuting agency determines that the information may be useful to the Principal or designee in maintaining order, safety, or discipline in the school or in planning programs relevant to the juvenile's educational and social development. Information provided in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60.e shall be treated as confidential, but the Principal or designee may inform school staff members of this information if the Principal or designee deems it appropriate for maintaining order, safety, or discipline in the school or for planning programs relevant to the juvenile's educational and social development. No information provided pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60 shall be maintained.

The Principal or designee who requests and/or receives information as specified in this Policy shall notify the Superintendent or designee within twenty-four hours of the request being made. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 53:1-20.6, the Principal or designee shall notify the Superintendent or designee of any applicable fees associated with the request.

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The school district shall comply with the NJDOE rules and regulations concerning the creation, maintenance, and disclosure of student records regarding Principal or designee notification of juvenile offender case disposition and this Policy.

N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60

N.J.S.A. 53:1-15; 53:1-20.6

N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1; 6A:7-1.3

Adopted: April 16, 2024

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Sex Offender Registration and Notification

9324 SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION

The Board of Education and administration will comply with the guidelines developed by the New Jersey Attorney General's Office and will work cooperatively with the County Prosecutor's Office and the Rockaway Borough Police Department regarding the requirements of N.J.S.A. 2C:7-1 et seq. (Megan's Law).

The Megan's Law notification statute applies to all sex offenders who are required to register pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:7-1 et seq. The offenses requiring registration by persons convicted, an adjudicated delinquent or a person acquitted by reason of insanity are as indicated in New Jersey Statutes Annotated.

Definitions

- A. Tier One offenders encompass those that are a "low risk of re-offense", thus constituting a low risk of harm to the community. This offender is one who, because of the type of crime, the lack of violence in his/her behavior, the lack of a substantial criminal history and the existence of ties to the community presents no more than a possible risk of re-offense.
- B. Tier Two offenders encompass those who are a "moderate risk of re-offense", thus constituting a moderate risk of harm to the community in that the pertinent documents demonstrate that they are reasonably likely to re-offend, warranting limited notice for the protection of the public.
- C. Tier Three offenders encompass those who are a "high risk of re-offense" in that the available record demonstrates that there is a probable risk of re-offense, warranting notice to the community likely to encounter the offender.

The County Prosecutors Office determines the specific schools, community organizations and residences to receive notification.

The school district is automatically included on the notification list and is not required to register to be notified under Tier Two or Tier Three notifications. Where the risk of re-offense is determined by the County Prosecutor's Office to be moderate or high in accordance with the law, the County

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Sex Offender Registration and Notification

Prosecutor's Office and/or the appropriate law enforcement office will notify the Superintendent and the Principal of the targeted school(s). The Superintendent should not notify the target school(s), but may contact the Prosecutor's Office if the Superintendent thinks that a school in the notification area has been inadvertently omitted. The school district is entitled to receive the offender's name and a recent photograph, along with a physical description, the offense of which he/she was convicted, their address, place of employment and/or schooling, and vehicle license number.

The Board of Education shall take appropriate steps to educate and alert those staff members who are charged with the care and supervision of children, emphasizing that this information is intended to assist such staff members in the protection of their charges, not to provide notification to the community at large. All sex offender notification information to the community must be released by the appropriate law enforcement agency or the County Prosecutor's Office. The school district and/or any school staff member shall keep all sex offender notification information confidential. In the event the school district is notified a pupil is a Tier One or Two sex offender, the school district will cooperate with the local law enforcement and the County Prosecutor's Office on community notification consistent with the law and guidelines of the New Jersey Attorney General's Office.

The County Prosecutor's Office will be asked to provide guidance to the school district staff members. The Board of Education, working in conjunction with the County Prosecutor's Office and/or a local law enforcement office, will hold meetings and other educational programs at a particular school for staff regarding the safeguarding of the school district's children. There will be a strong emphasis on providing pertinent information, constructive knowledge and guidance to the community, as well as advice concerning the consequences of vigilante activity.

The Building Principal of each school notified by the Prosecutor's Office will have the discretion to make the determination as to which employees within the school should be informed of the notification. The Building Principal should share the notice with any person who in the course of the duties of his/her employment or assignment is regularly in a position to observe unauthorized persons in or near the property of the notified school. If any persons to be notified by the Building

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Sex Offender Registration and Notification

Principal are employees of private contractors, the Principal or the Superintendent will notify the private vendor who will provide notice to the employees.

The Principal shall only notify school appropriate district staff of Tier Two or Tier Three notifications and not to provide notification to the community at large. Guidance to the school district in providing this information to staff members will be obtainable from the County Prosecutor's Office.

N.J.S.A. 2C:7-1 et seq.

Guidelines - New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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9400 MEDIA RELATIONS

The maintenance of a good working relationship with the media is essential to meeting the objectives of the school district's community relations program.

The Board of Education must give formal approval to all basic practices governing relations between the media and the school district and reserves the right to negotiate, on terms most favorable to the school district, for the broadcasting, filming, or sound recording of any school event by an outside agency.

The Superintendent or designee shall be the chief communications representative of the school district. The chief communications representative shall be readily available to: provide media representatives with all appropriate and necessary information; suggest or supply feature articles or stories; prepare information to be released to the media; assist school and parent organizations with media relations; meet periodically with media representatives; protect school personnel from any unnecessary demands on their time by media representatives; and provide additional information as appropriate.

The Superintendent or designee must authorize in advance interviews between staff members and media representatives when the staff member is representing or speaking on behalf of the Board of Education or the school district.

A school district staff member not designated by the Superintendent or designee to assist in any of the media responsibilities outlined in this Policy, including speaking to a representative of the media, is not prohibited from doing so on their own behalf as a private citizen provided the staff member does not indicate or imply they represent or are speaking on behalf of the Board of Education or the school district and indicate they are speaking on their own behalf as a private citizen.

A staff member who is acting on their own behalf as a private citizen should be cognizant of their obligations to protect the privacy and confidentiality of students and school operations in accordance with Federal and State laws.

The Board of Education reserves its right to regulate the exercise of school district staff members' First Amendment rights of the United States Constitution in such situations to the extent that such exercise may interfere with the safe and orderly operation of the schools and the learning environment.

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The Superintendent or designee must authorize the release of any image of district subjects, personnel, or students.

Any image of a student with a disability shall not be disseminated or used in print or media in any way if they are identified as a student with a disability unless permission is granted by the parent(s). Any image of a child placed in the district by the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection and Permanency shall not be published without permission of the Department case worker. Where the release of any image may violate the privacy of any student or staff member, the Superintendent or designee must first secure the written permission of the staff member or the student's parent(s).

Adopted: 15 October 2019

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Cooperation with Educational Agencies

9500 COOPERATION WITH EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES

The Board of Education recognizes the need for communication between this district and other districts and educational institutions that provide programs, training, and services not otherwise available to children residing in this district.

The Board acknowledges the responsibility for the education and conduct of the pupil in the school district in which he/she is enrolled.

The Board will attempt to meet periodically with the governing boards of other educational institutions that receive from this district a significant number of pupils or that send to this district a significant number of pupils.

In order to maintain a cordial and constructive relationship with Morris Hills Regional High School District, the Superintendent shall provide annually a complete description of all programs available to pupils of the sending or constituent district; institute an articulation council to coordinate the program of studies between this district and those districts sending pupils here; provide an orientation program for incoming pupils; assure that unusual traits of individual pupils entering this district have been made known to the staff members that can be of most assistance to such pupils; and inform the sending district of any serious discipline problems encountered with pupils from that district.

In order to maintain a cordial and constructive relationship with Morris Hills Regional High School District, the Superintendent shall cooperate with the professional staff in articulation studies to assure that pupils of this district are properly prepared to enter the schools of the receiving district; inform pupils in their final year in this district of program options in the receiving district and counsel them regarding their program choices; provide an orientation program to pupils in their final year in this district to familiarize them with the facilities, procedures, and rules of the receiving district; develop procedures to follow the progress of our pupils during their careers in the receiving school; and keep the Board informed of any problems of an individual or group nature that may be a threat to the educational progress of our pupils.

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Cooperation with Educational Agencies

In order to maintain cordial and constructive relationships with nonpublic schools, the Superintendent shall maintain liaison with the administration of all nonpublic schools located within this school district in order to be aware of any program changes that may be planned that could affect this district; determine how this district can advance the education of resident pupils attending parochial or private schools by the provision in these schools of special programs; and cooperate fully in the implementation of all state and federal programs administered by this district that benefit, in whole or in part, eligible pupils attending such nonpublic school.

20 U.S.C.A. §3066

N.J.S.A. 18A:38-13.1 et seq.; 18A:40-23 et seq.;

18A:46-19.1 et seq.; 18A:46A-1 et seq.;

18A:58-37.1 et seq.

N.J.A.C. 6A:23-6.1 et seq.; 6A:14-6.2 et seq.

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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Student Teachers/Interns

9541 STUDENT TEACHERS/INTERNS

The Board of Education encourages cooperation with colleges and universities in the education of teachers, because the public school offers an experience essential to their training, interaction with students and teachers at work in the classroom. Accordingly, the schools of this district will accept students from accredited institutions of higher learning as junior or senior student teachers/interns.

The Board, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, shall approve student teachers/interns.

Student teachers/interns shall be assigned by the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall assign student teachers/interns throughout the district in a manner that assures that no single group of students will be subject to excessive student teacher/intern classroom hours.

Student teachers/interns shall comply with the health examination required by rules of the State Board of Education and that required for teaching staff members by this Board.

The Board of Education requires every student teacher/intern possess a county substitute credential issued in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-7.1.]

Student teachers/interns shall at all times be subject to the policies of this Board. Student teachers/interns serving in the schools of this district shall be responsible to the Principal for their conduct and to the cooperating teacher for their performance.

Students and other affiliates of educational institutions will be offered the opportunity to visit and observe our district in the course of teacher training programs and educational research projects. Such students will be treated as visitors and will be under the direct supervision of the Principal.

N.J.A.C. 6A:9A-4 et seq; 6A:9A-5 et seq.; 6A:9B-7.1

Adopted: January 11, 2017

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Educational Research Projects

9550 EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Board of Education will cooperate, whenever appropriate and feasible, with organizations and individuals conducting bona fide educational research involving pupils enrolled in the schools of this district.

All educational research by persons other than district employees must be approved in advance by the Board. A written application for approval must state the purpose of the research, the specific ways in which pupils will be involved, the estimated duration of the project, the persons who will conduct the research project and their relevant affiliations, and any possible benefits to pupils or to the school district. Approval will be granted only to those projects that will serve the interests of pupils and the educational program; approval will not be granted to projects that will impede or significantly disrupt the instructional program approved by the Board.

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) will be informed of any educational research project that involves their children and may request the removal of their children from the project.

The conduct of research activities must rigorously protect pupils' privacy. Approved researchers may be given access to pupil records in accordance with rules of the State Board of Education and Board Policy No. 8330, but shall not abuse this privilege by using information in any way that may embarrass or harm individual pupils or their families. The Board must be satisfied that strict standards of anonymity and confidentiality will be observed.

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.5

Adopted: 15 January 2008

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Administration of School Surveys

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9560 ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOOL SURVEYS

The Board of Education believes the administration of school surveys may be necessary and valuable to the educational program in the school district. The Board recognizes certain student information is personal and some students or parents may not want this information shared with the school district. Therefore, the Board shall ensure school surveys are administered in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34 and 18A:36-34.1 and this Policy.

A. School Surveys, Certain, Parental Consent Required Before Administration – N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34

1. Unless the school district receives prior written informed consent from a student's parent and provides for a copy of the document to be available for viewing at convenient locations and time periods, the school district shall not administer to a student any academic or nonacademic survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation which reveals information concerning:
 - a. Political affiliations;
 - b. Mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or the student's family;
 - c. Sexual behavior and attitudes;
 - d. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, and demeaning behavior;
 - e. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom a respondent has a close family relationship;
 - f. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as lawyers, physicians, and ministers;

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Administration of School Surveys

- g. Income, other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under a program; or
 - h. Social security number.
 2. The school district shall request prior written informed consent at least two weeks prior to the administration of the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation.
 3. A student shall not participate in any survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation that concerns the issues listed in A.1. above and N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34.a. unless the school district has obtained prior written informed consent from the student's parent.
 - B. Voluntary Survey for Students with Prior Parental Written Notification – N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34.1
 1. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34.1 and notwithstanding, N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34 and A. above, or any other law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, if the school district sends prior written notification to the parent of the student, the school district may administer an anonymous, voluntary survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation to the student which reveals information concerning any of the following issues:
 - a. Use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and vaping;
 - b. Sexual behavior and attitudes;
 - c. Behaviors that may contribute to intentional or unintentional injuries or violence; or
 - d. Physical activity and nutrition-related behaviors.

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Administration of School Surveys

2. Written notification provided by the school district to the parent of the student shall be delivered to the parent by regular mail, electronic mail, or a written acknowledgement form to be delivered by the student at least two weeks prior to administration of the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation. Written notification shall contain, at minimum, the following information:
 - a. A description of the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation;
 - b. The purpose for which the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation is needed;
 - c. The entities and persons that will have access to the information generated by the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation;
 - d. Specific instruction as to when and where the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation will be available for parental review prior to its administration;
 - e. The method by which the parent can deny permission to administer the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation to the student; a form specifically providing for such denial shall be included with this notice;
 - f. The names and contact information of persons to whom questions can be directed; and
 - g. A statement advising that failure to respond indicates approval of participation in the survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation.
3. Information obtained through a survey, assessment, analysis, or evaluation administered to a student in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34.1 and B. above, shall be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health. Information may be used to develop public health initiatives and prevention programs. Information shall not be used for marketing or other commercial purposes that are not related to student health.

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Administration of School Surveys

C. Violations – N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34.d.

A violation by the school district of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34; 18A:36-34.1, and this Policy shall be subject to such monetary penalties as determined by the New Jersey Commissioner of Education.

D. Compliance with Federal Law

In addition to compliance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34, 18A:36-34.1, and this Policy, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure compliance with the provisions of Policy 2415.05 – Student Surveys, Analysis, Evaluations, Examinations, Testing, or Treatment before students are required to participate in a survey, analysis, evaluation, examination, testing, or treatment funded in whole or part by a program of the United States Department of Education that concerns one or more of the areas outlined in Policy 2415.05.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-34; 18A:36-34.1

Adopted: 12 April 2022

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SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

9700 SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Board of Education recognizes the contributions of persons and organizations outside the school district may take the form of materials, activities, and awards that tend to serve the interests of the contributor as well as benefit the school district and pupils. For the purposes of this Policy, “organizations outside the school district” shall be any organization, group, activity, club, association, agency, or individual that is not approved or sponsored by the Board of Education.

The Board reserves the right to review, approve, or reject proposed contributions from organizations outside the school district. Proposed contributions may be rejected by the Board, including but not limited to, proposed contributions that have the primary effect of advancing the name, product, or special interest of a person, corporation, or organization; fail to meet district standards of accuracy and good taste; are of little or no educational value to pupils; make unreasonable demands upon the time and energies of staff and pupils or upon the resources of the district; interrupt or interfere with the regular school program; or involve a direct cost to the district.

The approval of the use of any material or the conduct of any activity offered by an organization outside the school district shall not under any circumstances be construed as an endorsement by this Board of any interest, cause, or organization.

Permission to solicit or raise funds on school premises will be granted only to those persons and organizations whose purposes are consistent with the goals of this district and the interests of the community and are in accordance with the Board’s fundraising policy. Solicitation or fundraising may not interfere with the orderly operation of the schools. The Board will not be responsible for the protection of or accounting for such funds and these funds may not be deposited in any district account.

The Board will not permit the distribution of literature to or through pupils in the school district for any organization outside the school district.

However, distribution of literature to or through pupils in the school district may be approved by the Superintendent of Schools or designee if the organization requesting the distribution of literature is a local, State, county or Federal governmental agency or a community, non-profit organization and the information is determined by the Superintendent or designee to be of special interest to school district pupils or the community. Written requests for the distribution of this literature must be submitted to the Superintendent or designee with one copy of the specific literature to be distributed.

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The approval and method of the distribution of literature will be at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee. Any approval for such distribution will be consistent with the governing principles of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. In no circumstance will the school district release confidential pupil information.

The Board prohibits the distribution of political literature to or through the pupils of this district in school buildings or on school grounds that promotes, favors, or opposes the candidacy of any candidate for election at any annual school election, or the adoption of any bond issue, proposal, or any public question submitted at any general, municipal or school election. No pupil shall be requested or directed by any school official or employee to engage in any activity that tends to promote, favor, or oppose any such candidacy, bond issue, proposal or a public question submitted at any election.

The Board will permit the award of scholarships or prizes to deserving pupils provided that information regarding pupils is released only in accordance with Policy No. 8330 on Pupil Records, the manner of selection of the recipient is approved by the Superintendent or designee and includes consultation with appropriate staff members, and the nature of the prize or award is approved by the Superintendent or designee.

N.J.S.A. 18A:42-4

United States Department of Education - Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools

Cross reference: Policy Guide Nos. 5440, 5830

Adopted: 27 April 2010

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9713 RECRUITMENT BY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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9713 RECRUITMENT BY SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Board of Education prohibits recruitment activities by outside organizations on school premises, regardless of the purpose of the recruitment or the nature of the recruitment agency. Except as required and referenced below no information about individual students will be released for the purpose of approaching students for educational, occupational, military, or any other recruitment purpose.

However, a school district that receives funds under ESEA, on request from a military recruiter or an institution of higher education, must provide access to the names, addresses, and telephone listings of each secondary student served by the Board of Education. Parents and/or adult students may submit a written request to the Superintendent or designee to opt out of the disclosure of such information for the student in which case the information will not be released without the parent's or adult student's written consent.

Parent(s) of secondary students and adult students shall be informed annually in writing of their right to request a secondary student's excusal from participation in all recruitment activities and/or from having their child's name, address, and/or telephone listing provided to a military recruiter, an institution of higher education, or a prospective employer.

The district will give military recruiters the same right of access to secondary students as generally provide to post-secondary institutions and prospective employers.

Representatives of bona fide educational institutions, occupational agencies, and the United States Armed Forces may recruit students on school premises by participation in assembly programs, career day activities, and the like and by distributing literature. Permission to recruit on school premises must be requested in writing at least forty-five working days before the planned activity and must be approved in advance by the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee shall not favor one recruiter over another, but shall not approve an activity that, in the judgment of the Superintendent or designee, carries a substantial likelihood of disrupting the educational program of the school or school district.

Nothing in this Policy shall be construed as requiring the Board to approve or participate in an activity that appears to advance or inhibit any particular religious sect or religion generally.

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-19.1

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 – §8528

Adopted: March 16, 2021

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Solicitations by Vendors

9720 SOLICITATIONS BY VENDORS

The Board of Education will permit vendors to solicit pupils and parent(s) or legal guardian(s) for the sale of goods and services through the schools of this district, provided that the Board has given prior approval to the vendor and to the solicitation.

The Superintendent shall review each vendor's request to solicit sales and shall recommend to the Board for its approval only those that offer a product or service that is related to the educational goals of this district and offers good value to purchasers.

Any funds collected on behalf of a vendor approved by the Board under this policy shall be kept in a separate account pending transfer to the vendor. The Board disclaims any responsibility for any such funds.

In the event that more than one vendor requests permission to solicit sales of a particular product or service, or the Superintendent seeks a vendor to provide a particular product or service to parent(s) or legal guardian(s) or pupils, the Superintendent shall seek quotations from qualified vendors in order to determine which will provide the greater value to purchasers.

The Board reserves the right to withdraw its approval of any vendor at any time.

Adopted: 15 January 2008