

## POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education, in an effort to uphold student freedom to learn while also recognizing obligations that the exercise of this freedom entails, establishes the following guidelines for participation in local, state and national political activities. Campaign activities for offices in student organizations are exempt.

1. School employees may conduct appropriate activities that encourage students to become involved in the political processes. In addition, staff may utilize political figures as resource persons in the school. Equal time should be made available to all parties whenever possible.
2. School facilities may be used as meeting sites for partisan political groups after regular hours. A teacher or other school employee must be in attendance at student meetings. Adult meetings are subject to the procedures required for any facility use by outside groups.
3. Staff members involved in the teaching of politics may post and discuss circulars and examples of materials, political in nature, in schools for educational purposes. Equal time should be made available to all parties whenever possible.
4. Prohibited activities include:
  - a. Soliciting campaign contributions from students.
  - b. Writing or addressing of campaign materials by students during school time.
  - c. Distribution of campaign materials to or by students.
  - d. Behavior indicating that a school employee is using a position with students in the District to promote personal partisan views on candidates for public office. Staff, however, are free to express personal viewpoints when it is appropriate to the educational process.
5. Requests by or for political figures to address school assemblies should be directed to the building administrator with final approval to be given by the Superintendent of Schools or designee. Equal time should be made available to all parties whenever possible.
6. Employees will not engage in political activity upon property under the jurisdiction of the board including the use of school district e-mail accounts. Activities including, but not limited to, posting of political circulars or petitions, the distribution of political circulars or petitions, the collection of or solicitation for campaign funds, solicitation for campaign workers, general information regarding elections or ballot issues and the use of students for writing or addressing political materials, or the distribution of such materials to or by students are specifically prohibited. Violation of this policy may be grounds for disciplinary action.

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 1/9/84  
 2/11/91  
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 4/11/02  
 2/3/05

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ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

W A T E R L O O C O M M U N I T Y S C H O O L S

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