

## SECTION K: SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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SCHOOL-COMMUNITY RELATIONS GOALS  
(Public Relations)

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 systematic, two-way process of communications between the District and the community.
2. The District 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. School communications should be responsive both to events as they arise and to evaluations of the process.

[Adoption date: April 11, 2005]

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

CROSS REFS.: AE, School District Goals and Objectives  
KBA, Public's Right to Know

**THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY**

## 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: April 11, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: September 10, 2007]

[Re-adoption date: November 9, 2016]

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

**THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY**

## 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. Persons interested in taking photographs, broadcasting or recording Board meetings should notify the Board of their interest in doing 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 make audio and/or video recordings of all regular meetings and any special meeting that it deems appropriate.

[Adoption date: April 11, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: November 4, 2014]

[Re-adoption date: January 8, 2018]

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

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: April 11, 2005]

[Revised: September 8, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: Ohio Const. Art XII, Sections 2, 5  
ORC Chapter 133  
3311.21  
3313.37; 3313.375  
3315.07  
3501.01  
Chapter 5705  
5748.01 et seq.

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. developing Board policies under which the District is to be managed;
3. establishing administrative arrangements and procedures designed to help implement these policies;
4. determining the purposes of course of study 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. solving 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: April 11, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: November 4, 2014]

[Re-adoption date: March 27, 2018]

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  
BCFB, Family and Civic Engagement Committee  
FL, Retirement of Facilities  
IF, Curriculum Development

**THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY**

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS

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

Public participation in Board meetings is not a right, but a privilege granted by the Board. In order for the Board to fulfill its obligation to complete the planned agenda in an effective and efficient fashion, a maximum of 15 minutes of public participation may be permitted at each meeting.

Each person addressing the Board shall give his/her name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person is allotted three minutes until the total time of 15 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 on each agenda shall be a short paragraph outlining the Board's policy on public participation at Board meetings.

[Adoption date: April 11, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: November 4, 2014]

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)

**THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY**

## 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: April 11, 2005]

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

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

**THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY**

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.

[Adoption date: April 11, 2005]  
[Revision date: December 13, 2011]  
[Revised: August 11, 2015]  
[Revised: September 8, 2015]

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

**THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY**

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL PREMISES  
(Equal Access)

The Board encourages the proper community use of school premises. The grounds, buildings and property of the District are made available for the use of Three Rivers Local residents to the fullest extent possible under conditions prescribed by law and in accordance with the adopted policies of the Board. It is necessary, however, to ensure that use does not interfere with regular school purposes, impose undue burden upon personnel or strain the limited funds allotted for building services and maintenance. Therefore, the following procedures are established.

Conditions Governing Use of School Premises

1. An employee of the District must be present whenever a school building is used by an organization or group.
2. No building is used for commercial or personal gain.
3. No building is used for any money-raising activity unless the proceeds are for approved charitable, educational, character-building or other community welfare purposes.
4. Out-of-school groups do not begin with their activities until school is dismissed in the afternoon and the students have left the building. Buildings are not used for recreation by outside groups on Sundays or legal Holidays.
5. On days when school is closed because of snow or other calamity, all activities scheduled for that day are cancelled or postponed.
6. Building use is not permitted for private individuals, or family affairs. Buildings are to be reserved for community group use only.
7. No group will, under any circumstances, tamper with any electrical or heating controls.
8. The kitchen may be used; however, the use of kitchen equipment for food preparation and sanitizing of dishes, utensils and tableware requires the assignment of a cafeteria worker.
9. Smoking is not permitted in school premises.
10. The Board reserves the right to require groups using the premises to provide one or more of the following: post a cash bond to cover any damages that might be done to any property, equipment or grounds; and provide a certificate of liability insurance.

11. The application procedure for use of District outdoor premises follows the conditions outlined for the use of buildings. Sufficient police protection or adult supervision may be required.
12. No student group shall meet without the presence of a supervising adult.
13. Facilities use applications that involve the sale and/or consumption of alcohol must be submitted to the Superintendent for all community usages of school facilities and are subject to presentation to the Board of Education for approval. In addition:
  - A. No school facilities shall be used for any program which would include the use of drugs. Churches wanting to serve communion will be considered on an individual basis.
  - B. In rare, limited circumstances, school premises may be utilized by organizations to sell and serve alcohol during a program. Only organizations who provide an agreed upon percentage of the proceeds from their event to the Three Rivers Schools, minus expenses, shall be considered for this rare, limited exception. All facility usage applications seeking to utilize school facilities for the sale and service of alcohol shall be subject to Board approval. Applicants must retain all liability for such program and show proof of insurance for the sale and service of alcohol during the program, appropriately apply for a permit through the Ohio Division of Liquor Control and provide for security during the program.
14. All food concessions on school grounds shall be managed through the Three Rivers Concessions Consortium.
15. Any organization or group to whom the school grounds or premises have been loaned shall accept full responsibility for both the conduct of all who use the grounds or facilities and for the proper care of the buildings and equipment. Failure to comply with the rules or procedures could result in the revocation of building use privileges.
16. Requests for premises use are made with the Chief Operating Officer.
17. No school premises is used for engendering racial or religious prejudices or for any other purpose inimical to our democratic way of life. (Requests by organizations of a controversial nature may be referred to the Board for decision.)

### Application

An application is necessary when a group or organization wants to use a school premises. An applicant must assure the Superintendent that the group/organization will comply with all regulations and respect the property, equipment and grounds of the school.

Applications for use of school premises is made with the Chief Operating Officer and the Facility Usage Application Agreement must be completed.

(Approval date: April 11, 2005)

(Revised: November 19, 2013)

(Revised: July 7, 2015)

(Revised: August 11, 2015)

(Revised: September 8, 2015)

**THIS IS A REQUIRED PROCEDURE**

## PUBLIC CONDUCT ON DISTRICT PROPERTY

All persons on District grounds are expected to abide by all applicable laws, local ordinances, Board policies and District 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 District employees or students at any time. This prohibition is extended to all athletic officials, coaches and athletes in the District and all visiting teams.

Unless otherwise permitted by law, 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 at any time.

Whoever violates this policy and/or building regulations will be asked to leave the property by whoever is in charge. Should that person refuse, law enforcement officials 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 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: April 11, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: December 10, 2007]

[Re-adoption date: March 29, 2017]

[Re-adoption date: April 9, 2019]



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 product” 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 smoking devices and vapor products also are considered a “tobacco product.”

### Tobacco Use Prohibited

No volunteer or school visitor is permitted to smoke, inhale, vape, dip or chew tobacco products 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.





## 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: April 11, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: November 27, 2018]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 9.20  
3313.17; 3313.36

CROSS REFS.: BHD, Board Member Compensation and Expenses  
FEE, Site Acquisition Procedure  
GBIA, Online Fundraising Campaigns/Crowdfunding (Also IGDFFA)

## 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: April 11, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: November 27, 2018]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 2921.43  
3319.321

CROSS REFS.: GBI, Staff Gifts and Solicitations  
GBIA, Online Fundraising Campaigns/Crowdfunding (Also IGDFFA)  
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: April 11, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: March 29, 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

## 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 by the Superintendent 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 the 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: December 10, 2007]

[Re-adoption date: January 7, 2020]

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, graduation and athletic events)

All participants and spectators of school programs, assemblies, graduations and athletic events are expected to abide by all applicable law, local ordinances, Board policies, 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 and loitering on the grounds.

[Adoption date: April 11, 2005]

[Revised: December 10, 2007]

LEGAL REF.: Gun-Free Schools Act; 20 USC 8921  
ORC 2903.13; 2903.22  
2911.21; 2917.11; 2923.1212; 2923.122  
3313.20

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, charitable 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. The District provides at least two opportunities per school year for recruiters to present information in person to all students in grades nine through 12, individually or in a group setting.

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.

All recruiters are expected to abide by all applicable laws, local ordinances, Board policies and District and building regulations pertaining to public conduct on District property.

[Adoption date: April 11, 2005]

[Re-adoption date: August 14, 2018]

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.  
3313.471  
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, which 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 Board must be in writing and are expected to be specific in terms of the action desired.

[Adoption date: April 11, 2005]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 121.22  
149.43

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

**THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY**

## 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 credentialed 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 re-evaluation 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 materials 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 re-evaluation 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 re-evaluation 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 which it makes available to students, and it holds its credentialed 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 re-evaluation of materials in library collections upon formal request.

[Adoption date: April 11, 2005]

[Revised: May 12, 2009]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 121.22  
3329.07; 3329.08; 3329.09

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

**THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY**



## PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE CURRICULUM OR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Despite the care taken to select appropriate and valuable resources and the qualifications of the persons involved in the selection, occasional objections to a selection are made. When objections occur, principles of freedom of information and the professional responsibility of the staff are defended rather than specific resources.

Persons requesting permission to examine resources may examine materials in the library media center in a way so as not to disrupt the normal operations of the school.

If a complaint is made, the procedures are as follows:

1. The complainant is referred to the building principal.
2. The administration shares the Board-adopted policy, procedures and criteria used in selecting instructional resources with the complainant.
3. If the initial objection or concern is not resolved, the complainant is provided the appropriate form on which a formal complaint may be submitted.
4. The administrator notifies the Superintendent of the complaint.
5. Upon receipt of the formal written complaint, the Superintendent/designee requests a review of the merits of the challenge and an evaluation of the material by an appointed ad hoc committee. The review committee may include teachers, administrators, parents, students, librarians, members of the original selection committee and/or community members, as deemed appropriate.
6. The challenged material is retained or removed until the review process is complete.
7. The ad hoc review committee takes the following steps after receiving the formal complaint:
  - A. reads, views or listens to the challenged material in its entirety;
  - B. reevaluates the material using previously established selection criteria;
  - C. determines the extent to which the original criteria were valid and/or appropriately applied and
  - D. completes and submits to the Superintendent a report stating its findings and recommendations.

8. The Superintendent reviews the findings and recommendations of the review committee.
9. The Superintendent informs the complainant, and others as deemed appropriate, of the decision and takes appropriate action as necessary.

(Approval date: April 11, 2005)

## 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 may be 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 is informed promptly and is 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 executive session of the Board for a formal hearing. Statutory restrictions on executive sessions are observed. Any Board action on the matter is taken in public session.

[Adoption date: April 11, 2005]

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

**THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY**

## 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, parental 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 law and procedures.

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: April 11, 2005]

[Revised: May 28, 2013]

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 Facilities (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. 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 and any changes made during the school year for review by the Board.

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.

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

[Adoption Date: October 9, 2006]

[Revised: May 28, 2013]