

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

PHILOSOPHY

The Board of Education ("Board") believes that schools play a vital role in educating students about civics and the democratic process, helping them become informed and engaged citizens. The Board also affirms that school district facilities and resources shall remain politically neutral and shall not be used for partisan political activities.

All political activities conducted on or in relation to school district property must comply with the applicable provisions of the [Local Government Act](#), [School Act](#), and the [Elections Act](#). These statutes govern the conduct of elections and campaign activities, and school district staff and trustees are expected to ensure that district practices align with these legal requirements.

AUTHORITY

The Board authorizes the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer to implement administrative procedures necessary for implementation of this policy.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Political Neutrality of School District Resources and Facility Use

- Except as provided for in this policy, school district facilities, equipment, and supplies must not be used for political activity during instructional hours or in connection with district-sponsored events or operations.
- Political campaign signs and materials shall not be displayed on school district property or distributed to staff, students, volunteers, or parents in school district facilities or on school grounds.
- This restriction does not apply to non-partisan educational programs such as Student Vote, where campaign materials are created and used solely for the purposes of civic learning and classroom instruction.
- Rentals of school district facilities for political purposes may be permitted outside instructional hours, provided they comply with district administrative procedures. Such rentals are considered external use and do not imply endorsement or support by the school district of any political party.

2. Employee Conduct and Participation

- Employees may participate in political activities in their personal capacity. However, they must separate such activities from their employment, refrain from political activity during working hours, and avoid using district resources for political purposes.
- Employees are expected to maintain impartiality and avoid any appearance of bias in relation to their duties and responsibilities, especially when interacting with students, families, or the public.

3. Educational Engagement

- Elected officials or candidates may be invited to participate in school events that support student learning about civics and government, provided such participation is strictly non-partisan and educational in nature.
- The use of non-partisan, curriculum-aligned programs such as Student Vote is encouraged as a means of supporting civic education. Campaign materials and simulations used in such contexts are considered instructional resources and are not subject to the restrictions outlined in Guiding Principle 1.

4. Protection of Privacy

- Guests, candidates, and political party representatives attending events at school district facilities must comply with the [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#) (FIPPA).
- The creation or distribution of photos, video, or audio recordings that include students, staff, or other individuals on school property requires prior informed consent.
- Written consent from parents or legal guardians must be obtained by both political representatives and school district staff before any photos, videos, or audio recordings of students are collected, used, shared, or disclosed.
- Schools should clearly communicate restrictions on photography and video recording during campaign visits through visible signage or advance communication.

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