

EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: COMMUNITY

TITLE: COMMUNITY
RELATIONSENGAGEMENT

ADOPTED: August 19, 2002

REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p><u>2. Definition</u></p> <p>2. Authority Pol. 115, 118</p> <p>3. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">910. COMMUNITY <u>ENGAGEMENT</u><u>RELATIONS</u></p> <p>The Board feels it is imperative that communication be maintained in both directions between schools of the school district and local institutions, organizations and groups, such as industry, business, labor, charity and others that comprise the structure of the community.</p> <p><u>The purpose of community engagement is to create a collaborative environment in which students, parents/guardians, families, residents, businesses, and community organizations are encouraged and invited to be involved stakeholders in the school community. Such engagement strengthens broad-based community support for the school district’s mission, goals, operations and educational programs.</u></p> <p><u>Community engagement is defined as an ongoing collaborative process in which the school district works with the public to build understanding, guidance, and active support for the education of students in the community.</u></p> <p>The Board has authority over the students in its care but shares that authority to a limited extent through the cooperative programs that take students into the community during part of their educational career. To make those experiences meaningful, the Board feels cooperation with the community is essential.</p> <p><u>The Board endorses the concept that community engagement is essential for the school district and the community to maintain mutual understanding, respect and trust, and to work together to improve the quality of education for district students. The Board intends, through this two-way communication, to identify the community’s concerns, needs and suggestions, and to be responsive to the community through the Board’s actions.</u></p> <p><u>The Board also recognizes that the public offers resources of training and experience useful to the schools. The quality of the district’s operations and programs can be strengthened when these resources are used in an advisory capacity.</u></p> <p>Any programs that develop from community cooperative efforts require Board approval prior to implementation.</p> <p><u>The Board directs the administration to develop and implement a planned program of community engagement that regularly provides opportunities for students,</u></p>
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4. Guidelines

parents/guardians, families, residents, businesses and community organizations to participate in dialogue and decision-making related to district-wide and school-based issues.

The Administration shall develop and use varied, effective communication methods to ensure that all community members receive information about district and school programs and the available opportunities to become actively involved.

~~The Superintendent shall make presentations about the school district to various community and civic groups.~~

~~In reviewing cooperative programs, the administration shall keep in mind that the schools shall:~~

- ~~1. Maintain an impartiality among all constituents who promote worthy causes.~~
- ~~2. Not be used to promote private or commercial interests.~~
- ~~3. Not be used for direct sales promotion of goods or services.~~
- ~~4. Not assign students to outside tasks that do not primarily benefit the students.~~

Students, parents/guardians and community members must submit to the Superintendent's office any communications and questions addressed to the Board.

The Board and Administration shall give substantial weight to the input received from the community. When evaluating the community's suggestions, the Board and Administration will consider the impact on the district's goals, operations, educational programs, and financial resources. Recommendations made by the community shall not reduce the authority or responsibility of the Board and/or Administration, which may accept or reject such recommendations.

Resource Persons/Speakers

~~The Board welcomes talented individuals with skills, knowledge and experiences to share for the benefit of students.~~

~~Use of an outside individual or group as a classroom speaker shall require prior approval by the school principal.~~

<p>Board Policy 115, 118</p>	<p><u>Reference</u> <u>24 P.S. 510</u></p>
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