

Community Relations

Board of Education Community Outreach

The Board of Education (Board) recognizes that the community, defined broadly as the state and the Town, determines the quality of local education. It is imperative that members of the community, members of the Board, and school personnel cooperate in planning, developing policy, implementing programs, and evaluating results.

School-community relations are not merely reporting and interpreting. Rather, they are part of a public enterprise in which community members, the members of the Board and school personnel play their respective roles in the best interests of the school District.

The Board establishes the following goals for positive community relations:

1. to increase public understanding of the school system;
2. to increase community confidence and interest in the school system;
3. to promote effective dissemination of information concerning school activities; and
4. to solicit community input concerning the school system.

Responsibilities of school personnel to meet these goals:

1. to provide opportunities for community members to visit schools as individuals or in groups for informational meetings;
2. to encourage community participation and communication by informing the public of upcoming events and issues;
3. to actively and consistently maintain communication concerning student progress;
4. to encourage community volunteerism in the schools and provide an organizational structure for such; and
5. to actively participate in school/community activities.

Responsibilities of Board members, individually and collectively:

1. to conduct business in open and public meetings;
2. to provide for participation of community members at Board meetings;
3. to actively participate in school and community activities;
4. to explain the policies and functions of the school system to community individuals and groups;
5. to communicate with members of other town boards and commissions; and
6. to encourage input from community members.

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Board of Education Community Outreach (continued)

Responsibilities of community members:

1. to pursue learning the facts about school system issues from attending informational meetings, participating in public forums, and questioning those with first-hand knowledge;
2. to express concerns to members of the Board and school personnel;
3. to exercise the civic duty of voting in town meetings and referenda; and
4. to actively and consistently maintain communication with school personnel concerning progress of children.

Policy adopted: March 10, 2009
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WILLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Willington, Connecticut