

**MARENGO COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY MANUAL
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Community Relations

Public Relations

The Superintendent is the District's chief spokesperson and shall plan, implement, and evaluate a District public relations program which will:

- develop public understanding of school operation.
- gather public attitudes and desires for the District.
- secure adequate financial support for a sound educational program.
- help citizens feel a more direct responsibility for the quality of education provided by their schools.
- earn the public's good will, respect, and confidence.
- promote a genuine spirit of cooperation between the school and the community.
- keep the news media provided with accurate information.

The public relations program should include:

1. Regular news releases concerning District programs, policies, and activities, which will be sent to the news media,
2. News conferences and interviews as requested or needed. Individuals shall not speak for the District without prior approval from the Building Principal with regard to a building issue or from the Superintendent with regard to the District,
3. Publications having a high quality of editorial content and effective format. All publications shall identify the District, school, department, or classroom and shall include the name of the Superintendent, the Building Principal, and/or the author and the publication date, and
4. Other programs which highlight the District's programs and activities.

LEGAL REF.: 23 Ill. Admin. Code § 1.210.

ADOPTED: AUGUST 27, 1998

Community Relations

Community Use of School Facilities

School facilities are available to community organizations during non-school hours when such use does not: (1) interfere with any school function or the safety of students or employees, or (2) affect the property or liability of the School District. The use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses. Persons on school premises must abide by the District's conduct rules at all times.

Student groups and school-related organizations and local governments are granted the use of school facilities at no cost. Other organizations granted use of facilities shall pay fees and costs.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures to manage community use of school facilities. Use of school facilities requires the Superintendent's approval and is subject to the procedures.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §7905.
10 ILCS 5/19-2.2.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.40, 5/10-22.10, and 5/29-3.5.
Good News Club v. Milford Central School, 121 S.Ct. 2093 (2001).
Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School District, 113 S.Ct. 2141 (1993).
Rosenberger v. Rector and Visitors of Univ. of Va., 515 U.S. 819 (1995).

CROSS REF.: 7:330 (Student Use of Building - Equal Access), 8:25 (Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

ADMIN. PROC.: 8:20-AP (Community Use of School Facilities)

ADOPTED: JANUARY 14, 2008

Community Relations

Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities

No material or literature shall be posted or distributed that would: (1) disrupt the educational process, (2) violate the rights or invade the privacy of others, (3) infringe on a trademark or copyright, or (4) be defamatory, obscene, vulgar, or indecent.

Community, Educational, Charitable, or Recreational Organizations

Community, educational, charitable, recreational, or similar groups may, under procedures established by the Superintendent, advertise events pertinent to students' interests or involvement. This may include displaying posters in areas reserved for community posters, having flyers distributed to students, or being included in the school's or District's website where appropriate. All material and literature must be student-oriented and have the sponsoring organization's name prominently displayed.

Commercial Companies and Political Candidates or Parties

Commercial companies may purchase space for their advertisements in or on: (1) athletic field fences; (2) athletic, theater, or music programs; (3) scoreboards; or (4) other appropriate location. The advertisements must be consistent with this policy and its implementing procedures and must be approved by the School Board. No Board approval is needed for commercial material related to graduation, class pictures, or class rings.

No individual or entity may advertise or promote its interests by using the names or pictures of the School District, any District school or facility, staff members, or students except as authorized by and consistent with administrative procedures and approved by the Board.

Material from candidates and political parties will not be accepted for posting or distribution, except when used as part of the curriculum.

LEGAL REF.: Berger v. Rensselaer Central School Corp., 982 F.2d 1160 (7th Cir. 1993), *cert. denied*, 113 S.Ct. 2344 (1993).
DiLoreto v. Downey Unified School Dist., 196 F.3d 958 (9th Cir. 1999).
Hedges v. Wauconda Community Unit School Dist., No. 18, 9 F.3d 5 (7th Cir. 1993).
Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School Dist., 113 S.Ct. 2141 (1993).
Sherman v. Community Consolidated School Dist. 21, 8 F.3d 1160 (7th Cir. 1993), *cert. denied*, 114 S.Ct. 2109 (1994).

CROSS REF.: 7:325 (Student Fund-Raising Activities), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings - Equal Access)

ADOPTED: MAY 12, 2008

School Community Relations

Administrative Procedure - Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities

Requests from Community, Educational, Charitable, Recreational, or Other Organizations

Actor	Action
Community, Educational, Charitable, Recreational, or Other Organizations	Direct to the Building Principal all requests to advertise events pertinent to students' interests or involvement. Specifically describe the material or literature proposed to be displayed, distributed, or included in the school's website. Request specific dates for the material to be posted or distributed.
Building Principal	Screens all material before distributing or posting it to ensure compliance with the District's policy and procedures, including that all material and literature be student-oriented and have the sponsoring organization's name prominently displayed. Rejects all requests to post or distribute material or literature that would: (a) disrupt the educational process, (b) violate the rights or invade the privacy of others, (c) infringe on a trademark or copyright, or (d) be defamatory, obscene, vulgar, or indecent. Determines the appropriate location for posting the material and/or distributing it, provided that any distribution by staff is done without discussion. Informs the organization whether its request is accepted or rejected. Removes all materials that are out-of-date from the building and/or website.
Community, Educational, Charitable, Recreational, or Other Organizations	Have the material or posters delivered to the school. The school will not make copies. Provide in electronic format any information that the Building Principal agreed to publish on the school's website.

Requests from Commercial Companies to Advertise and/or Distribute Material

Actor	Action
Commercial Companies	Direct to the Superintendent all requests to advertise on school grounds or in school publications. Specifically identify the requested location for advertisements, i.e.: (a) athletic field fence, (b) athletic, theater, or music programs, and/or (c) scoreboards. Prominently display the company's name on all advertising. Provide a copy of the proposed advertisement to the Superintendent.
Superintendent	Screens all proposed ads to ensure that they will not: (a) disrupt the educational process, (b) violate the rights or invade the privacy

Actor	Action
	<p>of others, (c) infringe on a trademark or copyright, or (d) be defamatory, obscene, vulgar, or indecent.</p> <p>May approve a commercial request related to graduation, class pictures, or class rings.</p> <p>For all other commercial requests, makes a dispositional recommendation during an open School Board meeting.</p> <p>After the Board’s decision, takes all appropriate steps.</p>
<p>School Board</p>	<p>From time-to-time, by Board resolution, determines minimum fees for advertising space. All fees are subject to negotiation and Board approval. Current minimum fees are:</p> <p>Athletic field fences \$ _____</p> <p>Athletic, theater, or music programs \$ _____</p> <p>Scoreboards \$ _____</p>

Community Relations

Visitors to and Conduct on School Property

The following definitions apply to this policy:

School property - School buildings and grounds, all District buildings and grounds, vehicles used for school purposes, and any location used for a School Board meeting, school athletic event, or other school-sponsored event.

Visitor - Any person other than an enrolled student or District employee.

All visitors to school property are required to report to the Building Principal's office and receive permission to remain on school property. All visitors must sign a visitors' log, show identification, and wear a visitor's badge. When leaving the school, visitors must return their badge. On those occasions when large groups of parents and friends are invited onto school property, visitors are not required to sign in but must follow school officials' instructions. Persons on school property without permission will be directed to leave and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

Except as provided in the next paragraph, any person wishing to confer with a staff member should contact that staff member by telephone or email to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held, to the extent possible, outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Requests to access a school building, facility, and/or educational program, or to interview personnel or a student for purposes of assessing the student's special education needs, should be made at the appropriate building. Access shall be facilitated according to guidelines from the Superintendent or designee.

The School District expects mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among all people on school property or at a school event. No person on school property or at a school event (including visitors, students, and employees) shall:

1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, a Board member, sports official or coach, or any other person;
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner, or use vulgar or obscene language;
3. Possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device;
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property;
5. Damage or deface school property;
6. Violate any Illinois law, or town or county ordinance;
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products;
8. Consume, possess, distribute, or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs;
9. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner);
10. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the Board;
11. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized District employee's directive;
12. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding;

13. Violate other District policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or District employee; or
14. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the District or a School function.

Convicted Child Sex Offender

State law prohibits a child sex offender from being present on school property or loitering within 500 feet of school property when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender is:

1. A parent/guardian of a student attending the school and the parent/guardian is: (i) attending a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of his or her child academically or socially, (ii) participating in child review conferences in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to his or her child regarding special education services, or (iii) attending conferences to discuss other student issues concerning his or her child such as retention and promotion and notifies the Building Principal of his or her presence at the school; or
2. Has permission to be present from the Board, Superintendent, or Superintendent's designee. If permission is granted, the Superintendent or Board President shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Building Principal.

In all cases, the Superintendent, or designee who is a certified employee, shall supervise a child sex offender whenever the offender is in a child's vicinity.

Exclusive Bargaining Representative Agent

Authorized agents of an exclusive bargaining representative, upon notifying the Building Principal's office, may meet with a school employee (or group of employees) in the school building during free-times of such employees.

Enforcement

Any staff member may request identification from any person on school property; refusal to provide such information is a criminal act. The Building Principal or designee shall seek the immediate removal of any person who refuses to provide requested identification.

Any person who engages in conduct prohibited by this policy may be ejected from school property. The person is also subject to being denied admission to school events or meetings for up to one calendar year.

Procedures to Deny Future Admission to School Events or Meetings

Before any person may be denied admission to school events or meetings as provided in this policy, the person has a right to a hearing before the Board. The Superintendent may refuse the person admission pending such hearing. The Superintendent or designee must provide the person with a hearing notice, delivered or sent by certified mail with return receipt requested, at least 10 days before the Board hearing date. The hearing notice must contain:

1. The date, time, and place of the Board hearing;
2. A description of the prohibited conduct;
3. The proposed time period that admission to school events will be denied; and
4. Instructions on how to waive a hearing.

LEGAL REF.: Nuding v. Cerro Gordo Community Unit School Dist., 730 N.E.2d 96 (Ill.App.4, 2000).

Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §7181 et seq.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, 5/24-24, and 5/24-25.

720 ILCS 5/11-9.3.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

ADOPTED: APRIL 12, 2010

Community Relations

Administrative Procedure - Definition of Child Sex Offender

Child Sex Offender

720 ILCS 5/11-9.3(c)

- (1) “Child sex offender” means any person who:
- (i) Has been charged under Illinois law, or any substantially similar federal law or law of another state, with a sex offense set forth in paragraph (2) of this subsection (c) or the attempt to commit an included sex offense, and
 - (A) Is convicted of such offense or an attempt to commit such offense; or
 - (B) Is found not guilty by reason of insanity of such offense or an attempt to commit such offense; or
 - (C) Is found not guilty by reason of insanity pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 104-25 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 of such offense or an attempt to commit such offense; or
 - (D) Is the subject of a finding not resulting in an acquittal at a hearing conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of Section 104-25 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 for the alleged commission or attempted commission of such offense; or
 - (E) Is found not guilty by reason of insanity following a hearing conducted pursuant to a federal law or the law of another state substantially similar to subsection (c) of Section 104-25 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 of such offense or of the attempted commission of such offense; or
 - (F) Is the subject of a finding not resulting in an acquittal at a hearing conducted pursuant to a federal law or the law of another state substantially similar to subsection (a) of Section 104-25 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1963 for the alleged violation or attempted commission of such offense; or
 - (ii) Is certified as a sexually dangerous person pursuant to the Illinois Sexually Dangerous Persons Act, or any substantially similar federal law or the law of another state, when any conduct giving rise to such certification is committed or attempted against a person less than 18 years of age; or
 - (iii) Is subject to the provisions of Section 2 of the Interstate Agreements on Sexually Dangerous Persons Act.

Convictions that result from or are connected with the same act, or result from offenses committed at the same time, shall be counted for the purpose of this Section as one conviction. Any conviction set aside pursuant to law is not a conviction for purposes of this Section.

- (2) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2.5), “sex offense” means:
- (i) A violation of any of the following Sections of the Criminal Code of 1961: 10-7 (aiding and abetting child abduction under Section 10-5(b)(10), 10-5(b)(10) (child luring), 11-6 (indecent solicitation of a child), 11-6.5 (indecent solicitation of an

adult), 11-9 (public indecency when committed in a school, on the real property comprising a school, or on a conveyance, owned, leased, or contracted by a school to transport students to or from school or a school related activity), 11-9.1 (sexual exploitation of a child), 11-15.1 (soliciting for a juvenile prostitute), 11-17.1 (keeping a place of juvenile prostitution), 11-18.1 (patronizing a juvenile prostitute), 11-19.1 (juvenile pimping), 11-19.2 (exploitation of a child), 11-20.1 (child pornography), 11-20.3 (aggravated child pornography), 11-21 (harmful material), 12-14.1 (predatory criminal sexual assault of a child), 12-33 (ritualized abuse of a child), 11-20 (obscenity) (when that offense was committed in any school, on real property comprising any school, in any conveyance owned, leased, or contracted by a school to transport students to or from school or a school related activity). An attempt to commit any of these offenses.

(ii) A violation of any of the following Sections of the Criminal Code of 1961, when the victim is a person under 18 years of age: 12-13 (criminal sexual assault), 12-14 (aggravated criminal sexual assault), 12-15 (criminal sexual abuse), 12-16 (aggravated criminal sexual abuse). An attempt to commit any of these offenses.

(iii) A violation of any of the following Sections of the Criminal Code of 1961, when the victim is a person under 18 years of age and the defendant is not a parent of the victim:

10-1 (kidnapping),

10-2 (aggravated kidnapping),

10-3 (unlawful restraint),

10-3.1 (aggravated unlawful restraint).

An attempt to commit any of these offenses.

(iv) A violation of any former law of this State substantially equivalent to any offense listed in clause (2)(i) of subsection (c) of this Section.

(2.5) For the purposes of subsection (b-5) only, a sex offense means:

(i) A violation of any of the following Sections of the Criminal Code of 1961:

10-5(b)(10) (child luring),

10-7 (aiding and abetting child abduction under Section 10-5(b)(10)),

11-6 (indecent solicitation of a child),

11-6.5 (indecent solicitation of an adult),

11-15.1 (soliciting for a juvenile prostitute),

11-17.1 (keeping a place of juvenile prostitution),

11-18.1 (patronizing a juvenile prostitute),

11-19.1 (juvenile pimping),

11-19.2 (exploitation of a child),

11-20.1 (child pornography),

11-20.3 (aggravated child pornography)

12-14.1 (predatory criminal sexual assault of a child), or

12-33 (ritualized abuse of a child).

An attempt to commit any of these offenses.

- (ii) A violation of any of the following Sections of the Criminal Code of 1961, when the victim is a person under 18 years of age: 12-13 (criminal sexual assault), 12-14 (aggravated criminal sexual assault), 12-16 (aggravated criminal sexual abuse), and subsection (a) of Section 12-15 (criminal sexual abuse). An attempt to commit any of these offenses.
 - (iii) A violation of any of the following Sections of the Criminal Code of 1961, when the victim is a person under 18 years of age and the defendant is not a parent of the victim:
 - 10-1 (kidnapping),
 - 10-2 (aggravated kidnapping),
 - 10-3 (unlawful restraint),
 - 10-3.1 (aggravated unlawful restraint).An attempt to commit any of these offenses.
 - (iv) A violation of any former law of this State substantially equivalent to any offense listed in this paragraph (2.5) of this subsection.
- (3) A conviction for an offense of federal law or the law of another state that is substantially equivalent to any offense listed in paragraph (2) of subsection (c) of this Section shall constitute a conviction for the purpose of this Article. A finding or adjudication as a sexually dangerous person under any federal law or law of another state that is substantially equivalent to the Sexually Dangerous Persons Act shall constitute an adjudication for the purposes of this Section.

Community Relations

Exhibit - Letter to Parent Regarding Visits to School by Child Sex Offenders

Date

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Student's Name *(Please print)* School

The purpose of this letter is to help the school and District comply with the State law placing restrictions on child sex offenders' access to school property (720 ILCS 5/11-9.3). State law prohibits a child sex offender from being present on school property or loitering within 500 feet of school property when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender: (1) is a parent/guardian of a student and the parent/guardian is: (a) attending a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of his or her child academically or socially, (b) participating in child review conferences in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to his or her child regarding special education services, or (c) attending conferences to discuss other student issues concerning his or her child such as retention and promotion and notifies the Building Principal of his or her presence at the school; or (2) has permission to be present from the Superintendent or the School Board. A child sex offender present on school property must remain under the direct supervision of a school official. A child sex offender who violates these provisions of the law is guilty of a Class 4 felony.

Instructions for Child Sex Offenders

To lawfully visit school property, a child sex offender must complete 8:30-E2, *Child Sex Offender's Request for Permission to Visit School Property*. This form must be completed for each visit to school property.

Sincerely,

School Administrator

Community Relations

Exhibit - Child Sex Offender's Request for Permission to Visit School Property

If you are a child sex offender, you must complete this form to lawfully visit school property whenever students are present. After a decision is made concerning your request, whether to grant or deny permission to visit, a copy will be returned to you. This information will be kept in the District's main office as well as in the Building Principal's office where you are seeking permission to visit.

_____ Name <i>(Please print)</i>	_____ Address
_____ Signature	_____ Date
_____ School (Visit Location)	_____ Date of Visit

Complete the following if you are a parent/guardian of a student attending the above listed school.

I request permission to visit the school for the following reason(s):

- To attend a conference with school personnel to discuss the academic or social progress of my child.
- To participate in my child's review conference in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to my child regarding special education services.
- To attend a conference to discuss other student issues concerning my child such as retention and promotion.
- Other *(Please be specific)*: _____

Complete the following if you are **not** a parent/guardian of a student who attends the school you are requesting to visit.

- I request permission to visit the school for the following reason(s) *(Please be specific)*: _____

The following is to be completed by District personnel only:

- Permission Granted** **Permission Denied**

_____ Date	_____ Signature <i>(Superintendent, Designee, or Board President)</i>
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Visit Supervision *(To be completed by the person supervising the child sex offender)*

Supervisor's Name *(Please print)* _____

Visitor's Time In _____ Visitor's Time Out _____

_____ Date	_____ Supervisor's Signature
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Community Relations

Spectator Conduct at School Events

Any individual, including an adult, who behaves in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner during any school event or meeting, including Board meetings, may be ejected from the event or meeting. The individual is also subject to being denied admission to school events or meetings for up to one calendar year, provided the procedures contained in this policy are followed. Examples of unsportsmanlike or disruptive conduct includes, but are not limited to:

- Using vulgar or obscene language
- Possessing or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or illegal substance
- Possessing a weapon, or any object that can reasonably be considered, or looks like, a weapon
- Fighting or otherwise striking or threatening another person
- Failing to obey the instructions of a security officer or School District employee
- Engaging in any activity that is illegal or disruptive

Procedures to Deny Future Admission to School Events or Meetings

Before any individual may be denied admission to school events or meetings as provided in this policy, the individual has a right to a hearing before the Board. The Superintendent or designee must provide the individual with a hearing notice, delivered or sent by certified mail with return receipt requested, at least 10 days before the School Board hearing date. The hearing notice must contain:

5. The date, time, and place of the Board hearing,
6. A description of the unsportsmanlike or disruptive conduct,
7. The proposed time period that admission to school events will be denied, and
8. Instructions on how to waive a hearing.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/24-24.
Nuding v. Cerro Gordo Community Unit School Dist., 730 N.E.2d 96 (Ill.App. 4, 2000).

CROSS REF.: 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

ADOPTED: OCTOBER 23, 2006

Community Relations

Visitors To The Schools

Visitors are welcome at any School District buildings provided their presence will not be disruptive. All visitors shall initially report to the Building Principal's office. Any person wishing to confer with a staff member shall contact that staff member by telephone to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Any staff member may request identification from any person on school grounds or in any school building; refusal to provide such information is a criminal act. The Building Principal or designee shall seek the immediate removal of any person who: (1) refuses to provide requested identification, (2) interferes with, disrupts, or threatens to disrupt any school activity or the learning environment, (3) or engages in an activity in violation of School Board policy 8:30, Conduct on School Property.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/24-25.

CROSS REF.: 8:30 (Conduct on School Property)

ADOPTED: JANUARY 10, 2002

Community Relations

Exclusive Bargaining Representative Agent

Please refer to the "Professional Negotiation Agreement Between The Board of Education of District #154, Marengo, Illinois and The Marengo Education Association".

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/24-25.

ADOPTED: AUGUST 27, 1998

DELETED

Community Relations

Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

Individuals with disabilities shall be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities and will not be subject to illegal discrimination. When appropriate, the District may provide to persons with disabilities aids, benefits, or services that are separate or different from, but as effective as, those provided to others.

The District will provide auxiliary aids and services when necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal opportunity to participate in or enjoy the benefits of a service, program, or activity.

Each service, program, or activity operated in existing facilities shall be readily accessible to, and useable by, individuals with disabilities. New construction and alterations to facilities existing before January 26, 1992, will be accessible when viewed in their entirety.

The Superintendent or designee is designated the Title II Coordinator and shall:

1. Oversee the District's compliance efforts, recommend necessary modifications to the School Board, and maintain the District's final Title II self-evaluation document and keep it available for public inspection for at least 3 years after its completion date.
2. Institute plans to make information regarding Title II's protection available to any interested party.

Individuals with disabilities should notify the Superintendent or Building Principal if they have a disability that will require special assistance or services and, if so, what services are required. This notification should occur as far in advance as possible of the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

Individuals with disabilities may allege a violation of this policy or federal law by reporting it to the Superintendent or designated Title II Coordinator, or by filing a grievance under the Uniform Grievance Procedure.

LEGAL REF.: Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§12101 et seq. and 12131 et seq.; 28 C.F.R. Part 35.
Rehabilitation Act of 1973 §104, 29 U.S.C. §794 (2006).
105 ILCS 5/10-20.46.
410 ILCS 25/, Environmental Barriers Act.
71 Ill.Admin.Code Part 400, Illinois Accessibility Code.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:150 (Facility Management and Expansion Programs)

ADOPTED: DECEMBER 14, 2009

Community Relations

Gifts to the District

The School Board accepts gifts from any education foundation or other entity or individual, provided the gift can be used in a manner compatible with the Board's educational objectives and policies. While the Board encourages unrestricted gifts, donations to fund specific projects are acceptable if the project is approved by the Board. The Superintendent shall develop procedures for review and approval of donations that involve incorporating messages into or placing messages upon school property. All gifts received become the School District's property.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/16-1.

ADOPTED: SEPTEMBER 27, 2010

Community Relations

Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

Parent organizations and booster clubs are invaluable resources to the District's schools. While parent organizations and booster clubs have no administrative authority and cannot determine District policy, the School Board welcomes their suggestions and assistance.

Parent organizations and booster clubs are recognized by the School Board and permitted to use the District's name, a District school's name, or a District school's team name, or any logo attributable to the District provided they first receive the Superintendent or designee's express written consent. Consent to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos will generally be granted if the organization or club has by-laws containing the following:

1. The organization's or club's name and purpose, such as, to enhance students' educational experiences, to help meet educational needs of students, to provide extra athletic benefits to students, to assist specific sports teams or academic clubs through financial support, or to enrich extracurricular activities.
2. The rules and procedures under which it operates.
3. An agreement to adhere to all Board policies and administrative procedures.
4. A statement that membership is open and unrestricted, meaning that membership is open to parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school, District staff, and community members.
5. A statement that the District is not, and will not be, responsible for the organization's or club's business or the conduct of its members.
6. An agreement to maintain and protect its own finances.
7. A recognition that money given to a school cannot be earmarked for any particular expense. Booster clubs may make recommendations, but cash or other valuable consideration must be given to the District to use at its discretion. The School Board's legal obligation to comply with Title IX by providing equal athletic opportunity for members of both genders will supercede an organization or club's recommendation.

Permission to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos may be rescinded at any time and does not constitute permission to act as the District's representative. At no time does the District accept responsibility for the actions of any parent organization or booster club regardless of whether it was recognized and/or permitted to use any of the above-mentioned names or logos. The Superintendent shall designate an administrative staff member to serve as the liaison to parent organizations or booster clubs. The liaison will serve as a resource person and provide information about school programs, resources, policies, problems, concerns, and emerging issues. Building staff will be encouraged to participate in the organizations.

CROSS REF.: 8:80 (Gifts to the District)

ADOPTED: APRIL 10, 2006

Community Relations

Parental Involvement

In order to assure collaborative relationships between students' families and the Board of Education and District personnel, and to enable parent(s)/guardian(s) to become active partners in education, the Superintendent shall develop administrative procedures to:

1. Keep parent(s)/guardian(s) thoroughly informed about their child's school and education.
2. Encourage involvement in their child's school and education.
3. Establish effective two-way communication between all families and the Board of Education and District personnel.
4. Seek input from parent(s)/guardian(s) on significant school-related issues.
5. Inform parents/guardians on how they can assist their children's learning.

The Superintendent shall periodically report to the Board on the implementation of this policy.

CROSS REF.: 6:250, 8:90

ADOPTED: AUGUST 27, 1998

Community Relations

Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

The District shall cooperate with other organizations and agencies, including but not limited to:

- * County Health Department
- * Law enforcement agencies
- * Fire authorities
- * Planning authorities
- * Zoning authorities
- * Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), local organizations for civil defense, and other appropriate disaster relief organizations concerned with civil defense.
- * Other school districts

CROSS REF.: 1:20 (District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 4:170 (Safety), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews)

ADOPTED: NOVEMBER 5, 2009

Community Relations

Public Suggestions and Concerns

The School Board is interested in receiving suggestions and concerns from members of the community. Any individual may make a suggestion or express a concern at any District or School office. All suggestions and/or concerns will be referred to the appropriate level staff member or District administrator who is most able to respond in a timely manner. Each concern or suggestion shall be considered on its merit.

An individual who is not satisfied after following the channels of authority, may file a grievance under the Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. Neither this policy nor the *Uniform Grievance Procedure* creates an independent right to a hearing before the Board.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:230 (Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 3:30 (Chain of Command), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials and Programs), 8:10 (Connection with the Community)

ADOPTED: APRIL 25, 2011