

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Staff Communications

In order to perform their responsibilities, Trustees must be familiar with the operations within the schools. The Superintendent shall establish procedures which can enhance the Trustee's understanding of school operations.

Every reasonable means of communication is encouraged throughout the education community. The District is to maintain some order and structure to promote efficient and effective communications. For that purpose, the following procedures are established:

Staff Communication to the Board

All official communications or reports to the Board from principals, supervisors, teachers, or other staff members shall be submitted through the Superintendent. This does not preclude any staff member's right to appeal to the Board from administrative decisions, provided that the Superintendent shall have been notified of the forthcoming appeal and that it is processed according to the applicable procedures for complaints and grievances.

Board Communications to Staff

All official communications, policies and directives of staff interest and concern will be communicated to staff members through the Superintendent. The Superintendent will employ all such media as are appropriate to keep staff fully informed of the Board's concerns and actions.

Visits to Schools

In accordance with Montana statutes, each school of the District shall be visited each fiscal year, by Trustees, to examine the school's conditions and needs. Trustees are to share this responsibility. Individual Trustees interested in visiting schools should, out of courtesy, make arrangements for visitations through the Superintendent. Such visits shall be regarded as informal expressions of interest in school affairs and not as "inspections" or visits for supervisory or administrative purposes.

Social Interaction

Staff and Board Members share a keen interest in the schools and education. When they meet at social affairs and other functions, informal discussion on such matters as educational trends, issues, and innovations and general District problems can be anticipated. Discussions of personalities or staff grievances are not appropriate.

Legal Reference: 20-3-324(21), MCA Powers and duties

Policy History:

Adopted on: November 12, 1996

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