

STAFF PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education recognizes the right of its employees, as citizens, to engage in political activities and to exercise their constitutionally protected rights to address matters of public concern. Employees of the District who wish to take an active part in the political activities of our community are encouraged to do so. However, the Board shall not allow biased political activities of any individual or group within the classroom or during the school day. Any discussions of politics in the classroom shall be handled in such a manner as to give unbiased information.

No employee shall impose, or attempt to impose, their point of view or political philosophy upon any students or other employees. Political activities shall not interfere in any manner whatsoever with the ability of the employee to meet the requirements of their assignments.

Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted to infringe upon a staff member's constitutionally protected speech or conduct.

Ref: Education Law §414

Connick v. Myers, 461 U.S. 138 (1972)

Grayned v. City of Rockford, 408 U.S. 104 (1972)

Pickering v. Board of Education, 391 U.S. 563 (1968)

Bowman v. Pulaski, 723 F.2d 640 (8th Cir. 1983)

James v. Board of Educ., 461 F.2d 566, cert. den. 409 U.S. 1042 (1972)

Ahern v. Board of Educ., 327 F. Supp. 1391, affd. 456 F.2d 399 (8th Cir. 1972)

Matter of Board of Educ., 24 EDR 99 (1984)

Weingarten v Bd. of Educ. of the City Sch. Dist, of the City of N.Y., 680 F.Supp.2d 595 (S.D.N.Y. 2010)

Heffernan v. City of Paterson, New Jersey, 136 S.Ct. 1412 (2016)

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