

Hamtramck Public Schools - Board Policies BoardDocs® PL

Policy:po9120
Section: 9000 Relations

9120 - PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAM

The Board of Education believes that all reasonable means should be employed to keep the public informed on matters of importance regarding District policies, finances, programs, personnel, and operations. It is the purpose of this policy to provide the ways and means to accomplish this purpose.

The Superintendent shall direct an information program designed to acquaint the citizens of the community and general public with the achievements and the needs of the schools.

Toward this end, the Board shall provide parents or guardians and other District residents opportunities for orientation and information regarding State regulations and local school procedures, and will utilize, insofar as practical, all appropriate means and media to achieve this end.

The Superintendent shall develop school sponsored media, such as parent newsletters, staff bulletins, and special publications which will assist in keeping the community's various publics informed.

All publications intended for parents and the general public shall include the names of the members of the Board, the name of the Superintendent of Schools, the name of the District, the school address and phone number, and the date of the publication.

The Superintendent shall confer with the president of the Board prior to releasing information that may be considered controversial or of a sensitive nature. The Board president may ask that the Board members be polled prior to the news release.

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Policy:po9130
Section: 9000 Relations

9130 - **PUBLIC COMPLAINTS**

Any person or group, having a legitimate interest in the operations of this District shall have the right to present a request, suggestion, or complaint concerning District personnel, the program, or the operations of the District. At the same time, the Board of Education has a duty to protect its staff from unnecessary harassment. It is the intent of this policy to provide the means for judging each public complaint in a fair and impartial manner and to seek a remedy where appropriate.

It is the desire of the Board to rectify any misunderstandings between the public and the District by direct discussions of an informal type among the interested parties. It is only when such informal meetings fail to resolve the differences, shall more formal procedures be employed.

Any requests, suggestions, or complaints reaching the Board, Board members, and the administration shall be referred to the Superintendent for consideration according to the following procedure.

Matters Regarding a Professional Staff Member

A. First Level

If it is a matter specifically directed toward a professional staff member, the matter must be addressed, initially, to the concerned staff member who shall discuss it promptly with the complainant and make every effort to provide a reasoned explanation or take appropriate action within his/her authority and District administrative guidelines.

This level does not apply if the matter involves suspected child abuse, substance abuse, or any other serious allegation which may require investigation or inquiry by school officials prior to approaching the professional staff member.

As appropriate, the staff member shall report the matter and whatever action may have been taken to the immediate supervision.

B. Second Level

If the matter cannot be satisfactorily resolved at the First Level, it shall be discussed by the complainant with the staff member's supervisor and in compliance with provisions of a collective bargaining agreement, if applicable.

C. Third Level

If a satisfactory solution is not achieved by discussion with the immediate supervisor a written request for a conference shall be submitted to the Superintendent.

Should the matter be resolved in conference with the Superintendent, the Board shall be advised of the resolution.

D. Fourth Level

Should the matter still not be resolved, or if it is one beyond the Superintendent's authority and requires a Board decision or action, the complainant shall request, in writing, a hearing by the Board.

The Board, after reviewing all material relating to the case, may

1. provide the complainant with its written decision.
2. grant a hearing before the Board.

The complainant shall be advised, in writing, of the Board's decision no more than seven(7) business days following the next regular meeting. The Board's decision will be final on the matter, and it will not provide a meeting to other complainants on the same issue.

If the complainant contacts an individual Board member to discuss the matter, the Board member shall inform the complainant that s/he has no authority to act in his/her individual capacity and that the complainant must follow the procedure described in this policy.

Matters Regarding the Superintendent

Should the matter be a concern regarding the Superintendent which cannot be resolved through discussion with the Superintendent, the complainant may submit a written request for a conference to the Board. This request should include:

- A. the specific nature of the complaint and a brief statement of the facts giving rise to it;
- B. the respect in which it is alleged that the complainant (or child of the complainant) has been affected adversely;
- C. the reason that matter was not able to be resolved with the Superintendent;
- D. the action which the complainant wishes taken and the reasons why it is felt that such action should be taken.

The Board, after reviewing the request, may grant a hearing before the Board or a committee of the Board or refer the matter to an executive session.

The complainant shall be advised, in writing, of the Board's decision within thirty (30) business days. The Board's decision will be final and not subject to appeal.

Matters Regarding an Administrative Staff Member

Since administrators are considered members of the District's professional staff, the general procedure specified in "Matters Regarding a Professional Staff Member" shall be followed.

Matters Regarding a Support Staff Member

In the case of a support staff member, the same procedure is to be followed as for "Matters Regarding a Professional Staff Member."

Matters Regarding District Services or Operations

If the request, suggestion, complaint, or grievance relates to a matter of District procedure or operation, it should be addressed, initially, to the administrator in charge and then brought, in turn, to higher levels of authority in the manner prescribed in "Matters Regarding a Professional Staff Member."

Matters Regarding the Educational Program

If the request, suggestion, complaint, or grievance relates to a matter of District program, it should be addressed, initially, to the administrator in charge and then brought, in turn, to higher levels of authority in the manner prescribed in "Matters Regarding a Professional Staff Member."

Matters Regarding Instructional Materials

The Superintendent shall prepare administrative guidelines to ensure that students and parents are adequately informed each year regarding their right to inspect instructional materials and the procedure for completing such an inspection. (see AG 9130A and Form 9130F3)

If the request, suggestion, complaint, or grievance relates to instructional materials such as textbooks, library books, reference works, and other instructional aids used in the District, the following procedure shall be followed:

- A. The criticism is to be addressed to the principal or Director, in writing, and shall include:
 1. title;
 2. reasons for objection.
- B. Upon receipt of the information, the principal or Director may, after advising the principal or Director of the complaint, and upon the Superintendent's approval, appoint a review committee which may consist of:
 1. one (1) or more professional staff members;
 2. one (1) or more Board members;
 3. one (1) or more lay persons knowledgeable in the area.
- C. The Superintendent shall be an ex officio member of the committee.

- D. The committee, in evaluating the questioned material, shall be guided by the following criteria:
1. the appropriateness of the material for the age and maturity level of the students with whom it is being used
 2. the accuracy of the material
 3. the objectivity of the material
 4. the use being made of the material
- E. The material in question may not be withdrawn from use pending the committee's recommendation to the Superintendent.
- F. The committee's recommendation shall be reported to the Superintendent in writing within seven (7) business days following the formation of the committee. The Superintendent will advise the complainant, in writing, of the committee's recommendation and advise the Board of the action taken or recommended.
- G. The complainant may appeal this decision, within thirty (30) business days, to the Board through a written request to the Superintendent, who shall forward the request and all written material relating to the matter to the Board.
- H. The Board shall review the case and advise the complainant, in writing, of its decision within seven (7) business days.

No challenged material may be removed from the curriculum or from a collection of resource materials except by action of the Board, and no challenged material may be removed solely because it presents ideas that may be unpopular or offensive to some. Any Board action to remove material will be accompanied by the Board's statement of its reasons for the removal.

Revised 1/8/02

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Legal References: 20 U.S.C. 1232h

Adoption Date: **September 14, 1993**

Last Revised: **September 24, 2003**

Hamtramck Public Schools - Board Policies BoardDocs® PL

Policy:po9140
Section: 9000 Relations

9140 - **CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

The Board of Education, in its discretion, shall establish citizens' advisory committees when there is a definite function to be performed. All appointments of citizens to advisory committees shall be approved by the Board. All appointments of staff members to citizens' advisory committees shall be made by the Superintendent. Staff members shall never constitute more than a minority of any such committee. Every effort shall be made to ensure that the makeup of an advisory committee is as truly representative of the community as possible. The chairperson of an advisory committee shall be chosen from among the lay members. Board members may be ex officio members of an advisory committee.

Specific topics for study or well-defined areas of activities shall be assigned in writing to each committee immediately following its appointment. Upon completing its assignment, a committee either shall be given a new problem or shall be dissolved promptly. No advisory committee shall be permitted to continue for prolonged periods without a definite assignment. Each committee shall be instructed as to the length of time each member is asked to serve, the resources the Board intends to provide, the approximate dates on which the Board wishes it to submit reports, and the approximate date on which the Board wishes it to dissolve. Furthermore, the committee shall be instructed as to the relationship it has to the Board, to individual Board members, to the Superintendent, and to the remainder of the professional staff.

The structure and organization of an advisory committee shall be determined by the Board as appropriate to the assignment. Advisory committees shall be encouraged to draw upon a wide variety of resources both inside and outside the School District. Each committee shall be encouraged to draw upon the talents of other local residents and to recommend to the Board the official appointment of any such additional member(s) as the committee may desire.

Expenditure of District funds by an advisory committee shall be made only upon the prior approval of the Superintendent. Supplies, equipment, and personnel from within the School District may be obtained through the Superintendent.

Correspondence between the Board and its committees shall ordinarily be conducted by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall transmit the contents of any communication from a committee to the Board at the next meeting of the Board.

When a committee is ready to submit a report on its assigned topic, the Superintendent shall arrange a meeting for the purpose of receiving the report.

The Board shall have the sole power to dissolve any of its advisory committees and shall reserve the right to exercise this power at any time during the life of any committee.

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Adoption Date: **September 14, 1993**

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Policy: po9150
Section: 9000 Relations

9150 - SCHOOL VISITORS

The Board of Education welcomes and encourages visits to school by parents, other adult residents of the community and interested educators. But in order for the educational program to continue undisturbed when visitors are present and to prevent the intrusion of disruptive persons into the schools, it is necessary to establish visitor guidelines.

The Superintendent or the principal has the authority to prohibit the entry of any person to a school of this District or to expel any person when there is reason to believe the presence of such person would be detrimental to the good order of the school. If such an individual refuses to leave the school grounds or creates a disturbance, the principal is authorized to request from the local law enforcement agency whatever assistance is required to remove the individual.

Parents/Guardians, who are registered sex offenders and wish to participate in their child's school activities, may be allowed on campus at the discretion and under the direction of the principal. Conditions may be imposed, including but not limited to the following: must have prior permission, must check in, must have approved escort in building or at event, must leave premises immediately upon conclusion of business, and may not visit while school is in session.

Nonstaff access to students and classes must be limited and only in accordance with a schedule which has been determined by the principal after consultation with the teacher whose classroom is being visited. Classroom visitations must be nonobtrusive to the educative process and learning environment and should not occur on an excessive basis.

Parent concerns about any aspect of his/her child's educational program should be presented through the procedure set forth in Board Policy 9130 - Public Complaints, a copy of which is available at the Board office and at each school.

The Superintendent shall promulgate such administrative guidelines as are necessary to protect students and employees from disruption to the educational program or the efficient conduct of their assigned tasks.

Rules regarding entry of persons other than students, staff, and faculty upon school grounds or premises shall be posted conspicuously at or near the entrance to such grounds or premises if there are no formal entrances, and at the main entrance to each school building.

Individual Board members who are interested in visiting schools or classrooms on an unofficial basis shall make the appropriate arrangements with the principal. In keeping with Board bylaws, such Board member visits shall not be considered to be official unless designated as such by the Board.

The Board member shall be visiting as an interested individual in a similar capacity of any parent or citizen of the community. These visits should not be considered to be inspections nor as supervisory in nature.

If, during a visit to a school or program, a Board member observes a situation or condition which causes concern, s/he should discuss the situation first with the principal as soon as convenient or appropriate. Such a report or discussion shall not be considered an official one from the Board.

If the Board member believes the situation or condition serious enough, s/he may wish to also inform the Superintendent.

Revised 3/26/01

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Adoption Date: **September 14, 1993**

Last Revised: **March 14, 2007**

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Policy:po9160
Section: 9000 Relations

9160 - **PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS**

The Board of Education welcomes the attendance of members of the community at athletic and other public events held by the schools in the District, but the Board also acknowledges its duty to maintain order and preserve the facilities of the District during the conduct of such events.

The Board directs that no alcoholic beverage or other controlled substance be possessed, consumed, or distributed nor any betting occur at any function sponsored by the District and/or at any function occurring on District premises.

Raffles and similar forms of fund-raising by District-related organizations may be permitted by the Superintendent in accordance with Policy 9211 - District Support Organizations and Policy 9700 - Relations with Special Interest Groups.

The Board holds the legal authority to bar the attendance of or remove any person whose conduct may constitute a disruption at a school event. School administrators have the authority to call law enforcement officials if a person violates posted regulations or does not leave school property when requested. They are also authorized to use detectors and other devices to better ensure the safety and well-being of participants and visitors.

If a student or adult is asked to leave or is removed from a school event, no admission fees shall be refunded.

Service animals used by persons requiring this type of assistance shall be permitted in all District facilities and at all school events. The person may be asked to provide evidence of the animal's certification for that purpose. Certain restrictions may be applied when necessary due to allergies, health, safety, disability other issues of those attending the event. The goal shall be to provide all attendees with the same access and participation provided to other members of the public. Confirmation of disability, need for a service animal to access/participate in the school event, and current certification/training of the service animal may be required.

The Board is aware of the increasing desire of many parents and other members of an audience to make audio and/or video recordings of school events.

Such recordings can be made by parents or other members of the audience without restriction if the performance is not of copyrighted material. However, if the performance is of copyrighted material, recording can be made if the appropriate license authorizing such recordings has been secured in advance by the District. If the performance is of copyrighted material and the necessary license has not been secured in advance by the District, the audience shall be advised before the performance begins that audio and/or video recordings that will be re-broadcast or distributed in any way, such as posting on the internet, are prohibited.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish rules and procedures governing the use of nondistrict audio/visual recording equipment at any District-sponsored event or activity. Such rules are to be distributed in such a manner that members of the audience who wish to record the event are aware of the rules early enough to make proper arrangements to obtain their recordings without causing delay or disruption to an activity.

Any person or organization seeking to film students or a school activity which is not a public event shall obtain prior permission from the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall ensure that all notices, signs, schedules, and other communications about school events contain the following statement:

"Upon request to the Superintendent, the District shall make reasonable accommodation for a disabled person to be able to participate in this activity."

Revised 6/10/94

Revised 3/26/01

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Last Revised: **July 21, 2010**

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Policy:po9190
Section: 9000 Relations

9190 - **SHOP PROJECT CHARGE**

It is the policy of the Board of Education to approve school sponsorship of functional occupational projects as part of the shop instruction related to the occupations being taught by the District school(s).

Functional projects may be accepted by the teacher with the approval of the principal.

Careful consideration shall be given to each project to ensure that the service rendered is not being exploited and that the project is of educational benefit to the students.

Patrons shall be charged only for the actual cost of materials used in completing instructional projects.

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Adoption Date: **September 14, 1993**

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Policy:po9210
Section: 9000 Relations

9210 - PARENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Board of Education supports all organizations of parents whose objectives are to promote the educational experiences of District students. However, in using the name of the District or its schools and in organizing a group whose identity derives from a school(s) of this District, the parental organization thereby shares responsibility with this Board for the welfare of participating students.

Any new parent organization desiring to use the name or good offices of the District must obtain the approval of the Superintendent as a prerequisite to organizing.

Representatives and members of approved school-related organizations shall in all circumstances be treated by District employees as interested friends of the schools and as supporters of public education in the School District.

The Board relies upon approved organizations to operate in a manner consistent with public expectations for the schools and reserves the right to withdraw sponsorship from organizations which violate the bounds of community taste.

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Adoption Date: **September 14, 1993**

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Policy:po9211
Section: 9000 Relations

9211 - DISTRICT SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

The Board of Education appreciates the efforts of all organizations whose objectives are to enhance the educational experiences of District students, to help meet educational needs of students, and/or provide extra educational benefits not provided for, at the time, by the Board.

District support organizations are defined as any non-profit entity, group, or other organization formed and operating for the purpose of supporting District programs and approved by the Board. These programs may be educational to parents and/or children.

The Board shall offer the opportunity for any authorized school support entity to receive coverage under the District's liability insurance program to protect the entity against claims resulting from damage or injury resulting from any act or omission of any school-support entity. The entity shall pay for such coverage upon written notification from the Superintendent.

The District name shall not be used to promote the interests of any school support organization without the approval of the Board.

The Board recognizes that parent-teacher organizations and other school-related community organizations are channels through which school personnel, parents, and other citizens may discuss educational concerns, problems and needs and work together toward solutions.

Each volunteer organization shall work within the appropriate school setting and in cooperation with the principal and other staff members.

The following rules and procedures shall govern the working relationships between the Board, administration, and any District support organization:

- A. In addition to parents, membership should be made available to District staff and members of the community.
- B. It shall be the responsibility of each District support organization to monitor its activities to assure compliance with Board policy.
- C. Each District support organization will submit its bylaws to the Superintendent office for review and approval.
- D. Each District support organization is encouraged to set goals that are consistent with those of the particular programs, activities or athletics being supported as articulated by the coach/advisor and/or athletic director of such program, activity or athletic event, to avoid duplication of effort and to maximize the benefit to the organization or group.

- E. The activities of the District support organizations shall not involve the use of public funds and the District shall not assume responsibility for any purchases made on behalf of any support organization governed by this policy. The School District tax identification number shall not be used for District support organization purchases.
- F. The time, date, purpose, location and conduct of all fund-raisers on District property shall have prior approval of the Superintendent. District support organizations are encouraged to communicate their preferred activity dates to the Superintendent as soon as possible as consideration for dates and facilities will be given on a first come, first served basis.
- G. Each District support organization must abide by the policies and guidelines established for the use of District facilities and grounds. Projects that require any modification or alteration to District property must be pre-approved by the Superintendent or designee.
- H. Proceeds from District support organization fund-raisers shall not be commingled with a student activity or other Board accounts. Board employees who commingle such proceeds with a student activity or other Board account shall be subject to discipline.
- I. The Superintendent will work with staff to develop administrative guidelines that require each District support organization's fund-raising activities be in compliance with Board policies and that the funds generated by such fund-raising activities and donated to the District are used for school-related projects that have the approval of the Superintendent and principal.
- J. District support organizations are encouraged to obtain 501(c)(3) status so that community members may properly take tax deductions for donations to the organization.
- K. School employees and school volunteers may not be compensated in any manner by District support organizations for their work on behalf of the District.
- L. Donations from District support organizations must be made in accordance with Board Policy 7230 and any accompanying guidelines.
- M. The CFO shall ensure that the Board receives an annual accounting of each group's receipts and expenditures by no later than November of each year.
- N. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall arrange to meet annually with District approved support organization treasurers to inform the organization of District accounting practices regarding support organizations.

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Policy:po9250
Section: 9000 Relations

9250 - RELATIONS WITH PARENTS

The Board of Education believes that the education of children is a joint responsibility, one it shares with the parents of the school community. To ensure that the best interests of the child are served in this process, a strong program of communication between home and school must be maintained.

The parents have the right to participate in the education of their children as well as the ultimate responsibility for their children's in- school behavior, including the behavior of students who have reached the legal age of majority, but are still, for all practical purposes, under parental authority.

In accordance with Board Policy 2240 and AG 2240 (Opt-Out), Policy 2413 and AG 2413/Policy 2414 and AG 2414 (Health/Sex Education), and Policy 9150 and AG 9150 (School Visitors), the District shall provide the opportunity for parents to review curriculum and instructional materials and to visit the school to observe the instructional process.

With regard to student behavior, during school hours, the Board, through its designated administrators, acts in loco parentis or in place of the parents.

The Board recommends that the following activities be implemented to encourage parent-school cooperation:

- A. parent-teacher conferences to permit two-way communication between home and school
- B. meetings of staff members and groups of parents of those students having special abilities, disabilities, needs, or problems
- C. special events of a cultural, ethnic, or topical nature which are initiated by parent groups, involve the cooperative effort of students and parents, and are of general interest to the schools or community
- D. open houses in District schools to provide parents with the opportunity to see the school facilities, meet the faculty, and sample the program on a first hand basis.

Each school in the District shall hold an open house at least annually.

For the benefit of children, the Board believes that parents have a responsibility to encourage their child's career in school by:

- A. supporting the schools in requiring that the children observe all school rules and regulations, and by accepting their own responsibility for children's willful in-school behavior;
- B. sending children to school with proper attention to their health, personal cleanliness, and dress;
- C. maintaining an active interest in the student's daily work and making it possible for the student to complete assigned homework by providing a quiet place and suitable conditions for study;
- D. reading all communications from the school, signing, and returning them promptly when required;
- E. cooperating with the school in attending conferences set up for the exchange of information of the child's progress in school.

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Adoption Date: **September 14, 1993**

Last Revised: **January 08, 2002**

Hamtramck Public Schools - Board Policies BoardDocs® PL

Policy:po9270
Section: 9000 Relations

9270 - EQUIVALENT EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE SCHOOLS (HOME SCHOOLING)

The Board of Education encourages the enrollment of all school-age children resident in this District in public schools or in State- approved, nonpublic schools so that they may enjoy the benefits of a well-planned, educational program and the socialization possible in a group environment. The Board acknowledges, however, the right of parents to home school within the District, as established by State law.

The Board shall not allow a student who is being educated at home or at a nondistrict school that has not met the reporting requirements of the State to participate in any of the District's curricular, co-curricular, or extra-curricular activities. However, if the school has met the reporting requirements and the student is enrolled in the District on a part-time basis in noncore classes, s/he may also participate in noncore co-curricular or extra-curricular activities that are directly related to those noncore classes. It is not the purpose of this policy, however, to provide services to nondistrict students beyond the requirements of the law.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for implementing this policy.

Revised 11/12/96

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Legal References: M.C.L. 388.553, 380.1561

Adoption Date: **June 10, 1994**
Last Revised: **March 26, 2001**

Hamtramck Public Schools - Board Policies BoardDocs® PL

Policy:po9300
Section: 9000 Relations

9300 - NEWS MEDIA RELATIONS

The Board invites and welcomes the active participation of newspapers, magazines, radio, television and other mass media of communication in promoting the cause of good education in the Hamtramck Public Schools. Suggestions from representatives of the media as to how best to facilitate the flow of information to them will be welcomed.

The media is urged to present information about the schools in an accurate and forthright manner so as to be in the public interest. The media is also urged not to sensationalize school news or to overemphasize a given event or happening in such a manner as to unjustifiably discredit the schools.

The Administration will be expected to establish and maintain sound relations with the press and other communication media. News items for newspapers, magazines, radio and television shall be released through the office of the Superintendent or his/her designee. Exceptions shall be writings of athletic events, recreation or community education activities, and school social events that relate only to a given school.

When possible, release dates and times shall be controlled in order to benefit local news media.

Adoption Date: **September 14, 1993**

Hamtramck Public Schools - Board Policies BoardDocs® PL

Policy:po9500
Section: 9000 Relations

9500 - RELATIONS WITH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

It is the policy of the Board of Education that strong lines of communication be maintained by the District with other districts and with institutions and organizations which provide District students with programs, training, or services not available in the District.

The Superintendent may enter into such cooperative ventures with institutions or organization for the purpose of providing programs which correlate to the District's curriculum and help students better accomplish the educational outcomes established by the Board. The District shall cooperate with the Intermediate School District in the study of opportunities to share services with other school districts and the Intermediate School District.

Before entering into any agreements, the Superintendent shall keep the Board advised of any arrangements that would affect the use of District resources or require any additional resources of the District.

In order to maintain cordial and constructive relationships with private and parochial schools, the Superintendent shall maintain liaison with the administration of all such schools that enroll significant numbers of students resident in this School District in order to be aware of any program changes that may be planned that could affect this District; and to cooperate fully in the implementation of all State and Federal programs administered by this District that benefit, in whole or in part, eligible students attending private or parochial school.

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Legal References: M.C.L. 380.1296
M.C.L. 380.761

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Hamtramck Public Schools - Board Policies BoardDocs® PL

Policy:po9555
Section: 9000 Relations

9555 - PARTNERSHIPS WITH BUSINESS

The Board of Education is well aware of the role that education will play in increasing the nation's productivity and future well-being. To ensure success requires the combining of talent and resources within the region between business and education. It also recognizes that schools of the District need to operate as an integral part of the economic community if students are to receive the type of education and training they will need to function effectively in the twenty-first century.

The Board will seek to establish not only partnerships between the District and individual companies but also, if possible, consortia involving several companies and/or school districts. The purpose will be to seek opportunities for students and staff to share in new strategies and technologies being created in the business world and offer, in exchange, the knowledge and skill of District personnel in creating more effective continuing education for employees and members of the community. Properly planned and implemented, such partnerships or consortia could have significant impact on the nature and content of the curriculum as well as on the manner in which students are taught to learn.

The Superintendent is authorized to actively seek such partnerships.

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Hamtramck Public Schools - Board Policies BoardDocs® PL

Policy:po9600
Section: 9000 Relations

9600 - **STAFF/STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY EVENTS**

The Board of Education recognizes that the local community offers many programs and events that provide learning experiences which are not available in the schools and which can help students become more literate, cultured, productive human beings.

The Board seeks to maintain continuing communication with those groups and organizations that enrich the life of the community and authorizes the Superintendent to cooperate with their leaders both in the use of District resources that can aid their efforts and ensuring that members of the staff and student body are made aware of education-related activities of these groups. Further, the Board encourages members of the staff to make their many talents and specialized knowledge available, as time permits, to enhance the quality of such community activities.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines which will better ensure:

- A. community activities and events which are related to District Courses of Study are incorporated, as appropriate, into such courses as either required or enrichment assignments;
- B. school activities to which the public is invited are scheduled, to the extent possible, so as not to conflict with other events in the community which would appeal to the same audience. Such scheduling conflicts not only diminish the attendance at both the school and the community activities but also deprive the students and staff from deriving the benefits from participation in community programs which enhance learning and the quality of life.

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Hamtramck Public Schools - Board Policies BoardDocs® PL

Policy:po9620
Section: 9000 Relations

9620 - STAFF RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

Community relations must be an effort of the total school team: Board, administrative staff, teachers, custodians, bus drivers, secretaries, cooks and all other personnel. The image that each individual gets of the school system is largely determined by his/her contacts with school personnel. The image conveyed by one employee to one citizen could well be the lasting image, good or bad, which could well affect his/her future opinion about the school system. Good relationships reflect beneficially for the school system and ultimately for each member thereof.

A pleasing personality, good grooming, patience, understanding, intelligence and courtesy in those who meet the public will ensure positive relationships with the public.

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Hamtramck Public Schools - Board Policies BoardDocs® PL

Policy:po9700
Section: 9000 Relations

9700 - RELATIONS WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Any request from civic institutions, charitable organizations or special interest groups which involve such activities as patriotic functions, contests, exhibits, sales of products to and by students, sending promotional materials home with students, graduation prizes, fundraising and free teaching materials must be carefully reviewed to ensure that such activities promote student interests without advancing the special interests of any particular group.

It is the policy of the Board of Education that students, staff members, and District facilities not be used for advertising or promoting the interests of any nonschool agency or organization, public or private, without the approval of the Board or its delegated representative; and any such approval, granted for whatever cause or group, shall not be construed as an endorsement of said cause or group by this Board.

A. Political Interests

All materials or activities proposed by outside political sources for student or staff use or participation shall be reviewed by the Superintendent on the basis of their educational contribution to part or all of the school program, benefit to students, and no such approval shall have the primary purpose of advancing the name, product, or special interest of the proposing group.

The Board shall not permit the use of any type of educational material, program, or equipment in its curricular, co-curricular, or extra-curricular activities or at any time during the school day if such materials, programs, or equipment contain partisan political messages or are designed to persuade students or staff members to acquire a particular product or service offered by a named individual, company, organization, association, or agency. Professional staff may, however, utilize political materials or those provided by special interest-groups in adopted courses of study with the approval of the principal.

School facilities or equipment may not be used as a means of producing or disseminating to the community any materials that advertise or promote a political party, a political cause, or the candidacy of an individual for public office. Students and employees of the Board shall not be used to distribute campaign literature within the schools or on school grounds.

B. Contests/Exhibits

The Board recognizes that contests, exhibits and the like may benefit individual students or the District as a whole but participation in such special activities may not:

1. have the primary effect of advancing a special product, group or company;
2. make unreasonable demands upon the time and energies of staff or students or upon the resources of the District;

3. interrupt the regular school program;
4. involve any direct cost to the District;
5. cause the participants to leave the District, unless:
 - a. the Board's Policy 2340 - Field and Other District- Sponsored Trips has been complied with in all aspects;
 - b. the Board has granted special permission;
 - c. the parents of a minor student have granted their permission.

C. Distribution/Posting of Literature

No outside organization or District employee or student representing an outside organization may distribute or post literature on that organization's behalf on District property either during or after school hours without the permission and prior review of the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall establish administrative guidelines which ensure that:

1. criteria established in Policy 5722 – School-Sponsored Publications and Productions - are used to make a decision regarding materials that students seek to post or distribute;
2. distribution or posting of materials employees wish to distribute on behalf of an employee organization comply with the terms of negotiated, collectively-bargained agreements;
3. the District mail system is not used by students or staff for distribution of non-school-related materials;
4. the time, place and manner of distribution of all nonschool-related materials is clearly established and communicated;
5. flyers and notices from outside non-profit organizations may be made available for students to pick-up at the literature distribution rack/table by the school building's office, under the following circumstances:
 - a. the flyer/notice publicizes a specific community activity or event that is age-appropriate for the students that attend the school;
 - b. the organization submits the number of copies of the flyer that it wants placed in the literature distribution rack/table.

No student shall be required to take any of the flyers/notices placed in the literature/distribution rack/table and the rack/table shall contain a clear notice that the Board does not support or endorse any of the organizations and/or activities/events identified in the flyers/notices.

D. Solicitation of Funds

Any outside organization or staff member representing an outside organization desiring to solicit funds on school property must receive permission to do so from the Superintendent.

Permission to solicit funds will be granted only to those organizations, individuals or staff members who meet the permission criteria established in the District's administrative guidelines. Solicitation must take place at such times and places and in such a manner as specified in the administrative guidelines. In accordance with Board Policy 5830, no District student may participate in the solicitation without the Superintendent's approval.

The Board disclaims all responsibility for the protection of, or accounting for, such funds.

Solicited funds are not to be deposited in any regular or special accounts of the District.

A copy of this policy, as well as the relevant administrative guidelines, shall be given to any individual granted permission to solicit funds on District property.

This policy does not apply to the raising of funds for District-sponsored or school-sponsored activities.

Crowdfunding activities aimed at raising funds for a specific classroom or school activity, including extracurricular activity, or to obtain supplemental resources (e.g., supplies or equipment) that are not required to provide a free appropriate public education to any students in the classroom may be permitted, but only with the specific approval of the Superintendent.

All crowdfunding activities are subject to the procedures/guidelines in AG 6605.

E. Prizes/Scholarships

The Board is appreciative of the generosity of organizations which offer scholarships or prizes to deserving students in the District. But, in accepting the offer of such scholarships or prizes, the Board directs that these guidelines be observed:

1. No information, either academic or personal, shall be released from the student's record for the purpose of selecting a scholarship or prize winner without the permission of the student who is eighteen (18), or the parents of a student who is younger, in accordance with the Board's policy on student records.
2. The type of scholarship or prize, the criteria for selection of the winner and any restrictions upon it shall be approved by the principal.
3. The principal, together with a committee of staff members designated by the principal, shall be involved in the selection of the recipient. and, if agreeable to the sponsoring organization, the selection shall be left entirely to the principal and staff committee.

F. Sale of School Supplies

In determining the appropriateness of the sale of school supplies by organizations other than the School District, the Board requires that:

1. the organization have a purpose which will benefit the School District and its students;
2. the organization's planned activities are clearly in the best interest of the School District and its students;
3. the organization has submitted the following information and assurances on the form provided by the District: a statement noting the purpose of the organization, financial accountability assurances and use of facility assurances.

All funds generated by the sale of such school supplies shall be kept separate from other activity funds or other transactions of the Board.

G. Surveys and Questionnaires

Neither District-related nor nondistrict-related organizations shall be allowed to administer a survey or questionnaire to students or staff unless the instrument and the proposed plan is submitted, in advance, to the Superintendent. If approved, a copy of the results and the proposed manner of their communication are to be provided to him/her for review and approval before they are released.

Students shall not be required to complete surveys to provide marketing information to vendors, or distribute to vendors any personal information of students, including but not limited to names, addresses, and telephone numbers, except as may be required by law. In addition, the District shall not enter into any contract for products or services, including electronic media services, where personal information will be collected from the students by the providers of the services.

See also Policy 2416 and AG 2416

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Hamtramck Public Schools - Board Policies BoardDocs® PL

Policy:po9700.01
Section: 9000 Relations

9700.01 - ADVERTISING AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the appropriate and inappropriate use of advertising or promoting of commercial products or services to students and parents in the schools.

"Advertising" comes in many different categories and forums and is defined as an oral, written or graphic statement made by the producer, manufacturer, or seller of products, equipment, or services which calls for the public's attention to arouse a desire to buy, use or patronize the product, equipment, or services. This includes the visible promotion of product logos for other than identification purposes. Brand names, trademarks, logos or tags for product or service identification purposes are not considered advertising.

The Board of Education may permit advertising in School District facilities or on School District property in the following categories or forums in accordance with the guidelines set forth herein:

A. Product Sales:

1. product sales benefiting a district, school or student activity (e.g., the sale of beverages or food within schools);
2. exclusive agreements between the District and businesses that provide the businesses with the exclusive right to sell or promote their products or services in the schools (e.g. pouring rights contracts with soda companies);
3. fundraising activities (e.g., short term sales of gift wrap, cookies, candy, etc.) to benefit a specific student population, club or activity where the school receives a share of the profits.

B. Direct Advertising/Appropriation of Space:

1. signage and billboards in schools and school facilities;
2. corporate logos or brand names on school equipment (e.g., marquees, message boards or score boards);
3. ads, corporate logos, or brand names on book covers, student assignment books, or posters;
4. ads in school publications (newspapers and yearbooks and event programs);
5. media-based electronic advertising (e.g., Channel One or Internet or web-based sponsorship);
6. free samples (e.g., of food or personal hygiene products).

C. Indirect Advertising:

1. corporate-sponsored instructional or educational materials, teacher training, contests, incentives, grants or gifts;
2. the Board approves the use of instructional materials developed by commercial organizations such as films and videos only if the education value of the materials outweighs their commercial nature.

The films or material shall be carefully evaluated by the school principal for classroom use to determine whether the films or materials contain undesirable propaganda and are in compliance with the guidelines as set forth above.

D. Market Research:

1. surveys or polls related to commercial activities;
2. internet surveys or polls asking for information related to commercial activities;

It is further the policy of the Board that its name, students, staff members and District facilities shall not be used for any commercial advertising or otherwise promoting the interests of any commercial, political, nonprofit or other non-school agency or organization, public or private, without the approval of the Board or its designee.

Any commercial advertising shall be structured in accordance with the General Advertising Guidelines set forth below.

General Advertising Guidelines

The following guidelines shall be followed with respect to any form of advertising on school grounds:

- A. When working together, schools and businesses must protect educational values. All commercial or corporate involvement should be consistent with the District's educational standards and goals.
- B. Any advertising that may become a permanent or semi-permanent part of a school requires prior approval of the Board.
- C. The Board reserves the right to consider requests for advertising in the schools on a case-by-case basis.
- D. No advertisement shall promote or contain references to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, drug paraphernalia, weapons, or lewd, vulgar, obscene, pornographic or illegal materials or activities, gambling, violence, hatred, sexual conduct or sexually explicit material, X or R rated movies, or gambling aids.
- E. No advertisement shall promote any specific religion or religious, ethnic or racial group, political candidate or ballot issue and shall be non- proselytizing.
- F. No advertisement may contain libelous material.
- G. No advertisement may be approved which would tend to create a substantial disruption in the school environment or inhibit the functioning of any school.

- H. No advertisement shall be false, misleading or deceptive.
- I. Each advertisement must be reviewed in advance for age appropriateness.
- J. Advertisements may be rejected by the School District if determined to be inconsistent with the educational objectives of the School District, inappropriate, or inconsistent with the guidelines set forth in this policy.
- K. All corporate support or activity must be consistent with the Board's policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or age, and must be age-appropriate.
- L. Students shall not be required to advertise a product, service, company or industry.
- M. Advertising will not be permitted on the outside or the inside of school buses.
- N. The Superintendent or designee is responsible for screening all advertising.
- O. The Superintendent or designee may require that samples of advertising be made available for inspection.
- P. The inclusion of advertisements in School District publications, in School District facilities, or on school district property does not constitute or imply approval and/or endorsement of any product, service, organization, or activity.
- Q. Final discretion regarding whether to advertise and the content and value of the materials will be with the Board.

Accounting

Advertising revenues must be properly reported and accounted for.

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Policy:po9800
Section: 9000 Relations

9800 - **HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS TO WORLD WAR II VETERANS**

The Board of Education recognizes the service provided to the country and the individual sacrifices made by veterans of World War II.

Since many of these veterans left high school in order to fight for their country, the Board wishes to recognize their efforts by awarding a high school diploma to qualified military veterans in accordance with Public Act 181 of 2001.

The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to accept applications and documentation on the forms provided by the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs, Veterans Affairs Directorate. The Board will satisfy itself that the intent of the law has been met and the Board may then authorize the awarding of the high school diploma.

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Legal References: PA 181 of 2001

Adoption Date: **December 11, 2002**