

# SOUTHEASTERN GREENE SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: ADMINISTRATIVE  
EMPLOYEES

TITLE: FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN  
NONSCHOOL SETTINGS

ADOPTED: November 15, 2011

REVISED:

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>320. FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN NONSCHOOL SETTINGS</b></p>
1. Purpose	<p>The Board acknowledges the right of its administrative employees as citizens in a democratic society to speak out on issues of public concern. When those issues are related to the school system and its programs, however, the employee's freedom of expression must be balanced against the interests of this district.</p>
2. Authority	<p>The Board adopts this policy to clarify situations in which an administrator's expression could conflict with the district's interests.</p>
3. Guidelines	<p>In situations in which an administrator is not engaged in the performance of professional duties, s/he shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognize that as an administrator his/her comments generally will be viewed as representative of the district.</li> <li>2. State clearly that his/her comments represent personal views and not those of the school district.</li> <li>3. Not direct his/her expression toward any individual(s) with whom s/he would normally be in contact in the performance of duties, in order to avoid the disruption of cooperative staff relationships.</li> <li>4. Refrain from comments that would interfere with the maintenance of student discipline.</li> <li>5. Refrain from making public statements known to be false or made without regard for truth or accuracy.</li> <li>6. Refrain from making threats against co-workers, supervisors or district officials.</li> </ol> <p>Violations of this policy may constitute cause for disciplinary action.</p>
<p><b>Pol. 317</b></p>	