

POLICY

SOMERSET COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date Submitted: January 18, 2000 Date Reviewed: September 19, 2006 March 17, 2009	Number: 700-51
Subject: School Board Negotiating Agents	Date Approved: February 15, 2000 October 17, 2006 May 26, 2009 Date Revised: March 17, 2009 Date Effective: February 15, 2000 October 17, 2006 May 26, 2009

1. PURPOSE

To establish the responsibilities of the Board's chief negotiator.

2. PROCEDURE

A. The Board of Education is committed to a policy of keeping informed on matters of negotiations and of bargaining in good faith with employee bargaining units.

The Board, working in concert with the Superintendent of Schools, will designate the Board's negotiating team.

(1) The chief negotiator:

- (a) Consults with and gives direction to the Board's negotiating team.
- (b) Acts as the official communicator for the Board.
- (c) Keeps the Board fully apprised of all developments relating to negotiations.

(2) The duties of the Board's chief negotiator will be as follows:

- (a) The chief negotiator will report to the Board and will work in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools.
- (b) As chairperson of the Board's negotiation team(s), he and/or she will assume leadership responsibility in developing positions, representing the Board in the negotiations process, and in preparing agreements with employees.

B. The Board of Education wishes to affirm its long-standing practice of working through its negotiating team in matters of negotiations and contract management, recognizing that inherent in this practice is a commitment by individual Board Members not to deal with matters of negotiations outside of the established practice.