

### **BOARD RELATIONS WITH THE MEDIA**

The Board believes that it is a responsibility to keep the public informed about the operations, programs, progress, and problems of the public schools. Consequently, Board meetings are open to the news media and public. In the event that representatives of the news media are unable to attend a meeting, upon request, the Superintendent shall provide a summary of important Board actions. The Board Chair shall provide this information in the absence of the Superintendent.

Public documents, as defined by state statute, will be made available as provided by statute and the school unit's procedures. Requests should be made to the Office of the Superintendent.

When individual Board members receive requests from news media representatives for information or comment, they shall refer such inquiries to the Superintendent of Schools who shall be public spokesperson for the Board. Individual Board members may choose to speak to the media but should only express personal opinions and not speak on behalf of the Board.

Legal Reference: 1 MRSA § 402

Cross Reference: KI- Visitors to the Schools

Adopted: July 11, 2017