

**COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #3, FULTON COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY MANUAL
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Community Relations

Public Relations

The Superintendent is the District's chief spokesperson and shall plan, implement, and evaluate a District public relations program which will:

- develop public understanding of school operation.
- gather public attitudes and desires for the District.
- secure adequate financial support for a sound educational program.
- help citizens feel a more direct responsibility for the quality of education provided by their schools.
- earn the public's good will, respect, and confidence.
- promote a genuine spirit of cooperation between the school and the community.
- keep the news media provided with accurate information.

The public relations program should include:

1. Regular news releases concerning District programs, policies, and activities, which will be sent to the news media,
2. News conferences and interviews as requested or needed. Individuals shall not speak for the District without prior approval from the Building Principal with regard to a building issue or from the Superintendent with regard to the District,
3. Publications having a high quality of editorial content and effective format. All publications shall identify the District, school, department, or classroom and shall include the name of the Superintendent, the Building Principal, and/or the author and the publication date, and
4. Other programs which highlight the District's programs and activities.

LEGAL REF.: 23 Ill. Admin. Code § 1.210.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1999

Community Relations

Community Use of School Facilities

School facilities are available to community organizations during non-school hours when such use does not: (1) interfere with any school function or affect the safety of students or employees, or (2) affect the property or liability of the School District. The use of school facilities for school purposes has precedence over all other uses. The District reserves the right to cancel previously scheduled use of facilities by community organizations and other groups. The use of school facilities requires the prior approval of the Superintendent or designee and is subject to applicable procedures

Persons on the school premises must abide by the District's conduct rules at all times.

Student groups, school-related organizations, government agencies, and non-profit organizations are granted the use of school facilities at no costs during regularly staffed hours. Fees and costs shall apply during non-regularly staffed hours and to other organizations granted use of facilities at any time. A fee schedule and other terms of use shall be prepared by the Superintendent and be subject to annual approval by the School Board.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §7905.
 10 ILCS 5/19-2.2
 105 ILCS 5/10-20.40, 5/10-22.10, and 5/29-3.5.
 Good News Club v. Milford Central School, 121 S.Ct. 2093 (2001).
 Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School District, 113 S.Ct. 2141
 (1993).
 Rosenberger v. Rector and Visitors of Univ. Of Va., 515 U.S. 819 (1995).

CROSS REF.: 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings – Equal Access), 8:25 (Advertising and
 Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities), 8:30
 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

APPROVED: July 30, 2015

ADOPTED: August 17, 2015

Community Relations

Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities

No material or literature shall be posted or distributed that would: (1) disrupt the educational process, (2) violate the rights or invade the privacy of others, (3) infringe on a trademark or copyright, or (4) be defamatory, obscene, vulgar, or indecent. No material, literature, or advertisement shall be posted or distributed without advanced approval as described in this policy.

Community, Educational, Charitable, or Recreational Organizations

Community, educational, charitable, recreational, or similar groups may, under procedures established by the Superintendent, advertise events pertinent to students' interests or involvement. All advertisements must (1) be student-oriented, (2) prominently display the sponsoring organizations name, and (3) be approved in advance by the Superintendent or designee. The District reserves the right to decide where and when any advertisement or flyer is distributed, displayed, or posted.

Commercial Companies and Political Candidates or Parties

Commercial companies may purchase space for their advertisements in or on: (1) athletic field fences; (2) athletic, theater, or music programs; (3) student newspapers or yearbooks; (4) scoreboards; or (5) other appropriate locations. The advertisements must be consistent with this policy and its implementing administrative procedures and be appropriate for display in context. Prior approval from the Board is needed for advertisements on athletic fields, scoreboards, or other building locations. Prior approval is needed from the Superintendent or designee for advertisements on athletic, theater, or music programs; student newspapers and yearbooks; and any commercial material related to graduation, class pictures, or class rings.

No individual or entity may advertise or promote its interest by advertising names or pictures of the School District, any District school or facility, staff members, or students except as authorized by and consistent with administrative procedures and approved by the Board.

Material from candidates and political parties will not be accepted for posting or distribution, except when used as part of the curriculum.

LEGAL REF.: Berger v. Rensselaer Central School Corp., 982 F.2d 1160 (7th Cir. 1993, *cert. denied*, 113 S.Ct. 2344 (1993).

DiLoreto v. Downey Unified School Dist., 196 F.3d 958 (9th Cir. 1999).

Hedges v. Wauconda Community Unit School Dist. No. 18, 9 F.3d 5 (7th Cir. 1993).

Lamb's Chapel v. Center Moriches Union Free School Dist., 113 S.Ct. 2141 (1993).

Sherman v. Community Consolidated School Dist. 21, 8 F.3d 1160 (7th Cir. 1993),
cert. denied, 114 S.Ct. 2109 (1994).

Victory Through Jesus Sports Ministry v. Lees' Summit R-7 Sch. Dist., 640 F.3d 329
(8th Cir. 2011), *cert. denied*, 132 S. Ct. 592 (2011)

CROSS REF.: 7:325 (Student Fund-Raising Activities), 7:330 (Student Use of Buildings-Equal Access)

APPROVED: February 18, 2014

ADOPTED: March 17, 2014

Community Relations

Visitors to and Conduct On School Property

The following definition apply to this policy:

School property – District and school buildings, grounds, and parking areas; vehicles used for school purposes; and any location used for a School Board meeting, school athletic event, or other school-sponsored event.

Visitor – Any person other than an enrolled student or District employee.

All visitors to school property are required to report to the Building Principal's office and receive permission to remain on school property. All visitors must sign a visitor's log, show identification, and wear a visitor's badge. When leaving the school, visitors must return their badge. On those occasions when large groups of parents and friends are invited onto school property, visitors are not required to sign in but must follow school officials' instructions. Persons on school property without permission will be directed to leave and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

Except as provided in the next paragraph, any person wishing to confer with a staff member should contact that staff member by telephone or email to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held, to the extent possible, outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Request to access a school building, facility, and/or educational program, or to interview personnel or a student for purposes of assessing the student's special education needs, should be made at the appropriate building. Access shall be facilitated according to guidelines from the Superintendent or designee.

The School District expects mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct among all people on school property or at a school event. No person on school property or at a school event (including visitors), students, and employees) shall perform any of the following acts:

1. Strike, Injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, a Board member, sports official or coach, or any other person;
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner, or use vulgar or obscene language
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property;
5. Damage or deface School District property;
6. Violate any Illinois law, or town or county ordinance;
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products;
8. Distribute, Consume, possess, or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs; be present when the person's alcohol or illegal drug consumption is detectible, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.

9. Use or possess medical cannabis.
10. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner);
11. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the Board;
12. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized District employee's directive;
13. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding;
14. Violate other District policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or District employee.
15. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the District or a School function.

Convicted Child Sex Offender

State law prohibits a child sex offender from being present on school property or loitering within 500 feet of school property when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender is:

1. A parent/guardian of a student attending the school and has notified the Building Principal of his or her presence at the school for the purpose of: (i) attending a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of his or her child academically or socially, (ii) participating in child review conferences in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to his or her child regarding special education services, or (iii) attending conferences to discuss other student issues concerning his or her child such as retention and promotion; or
2. Has permission to be present from the Board, Superintendent, or Superintendent's designee. If permission is granted, the Superintendent or Board President shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Building Principal.

In all cases, the Superintendent, or designee who is a certified employee, shall supervise a child sex offender whenever the offender is in a child's vicinity.

Exclusive Bargaining Representative Agent

Authorized agents of an exclusive bargaining representative, upon notifying the Building Principal's office, may meet with a school employee (or group of employees) in the school building during free-times of such employees.

Enforcement

Any staff member may request identification from any person on school grounds or in any school building; refusal to provide such information is a criminal act. The Building Principal or designee shall seek the immediate removal of any person who refuses to provide requested identification.

Any person who engages in conduct prohibited by this policy may be ejected from school property. The person is also subject to being denied admission to school events or meetings for up to one calendar year.

Procedures to Deny Future Admission to School Events or Meetings

Before any person may be denied admission to school events or meetings as provided in this policy, the person has the right to a hearing before the Board. The Superintendent may refuse the person admission pending such hearing. The Superintendent or designee must provide the person with a hearing notice, delivered or sent by certified mail with return receipt requested, at least ten days before the Board hearing date. The hearing notice must contain:

1. The date, time, and place of the Board hearing;
2. A description of the prohibited conduct;
3. The proposed time period that admission to school events will be denied; and
4. Instructions on how to waive a hearing.

LEGAL REF.: Nuding v. Cerro Gordo Community Unit School Dist., 730 N.E. 2d 96 (Ill. App.4, 2000)

Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §7181 et seq.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, 5/24-24, and 5/24-25.

410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

430 ILCS 66/. Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

720 ILCS 5/11-9.3.

CROSS REF.: 4:170 (Safety), 5:50 (Drug-and Alcohol-Free Workplace; Tobacco Prohibition), 6:120 (Education of Children with Disabilities), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers), 7:190 (Student Behavior), 8:20 (Community Use of School Facilities)

APPROVED: December 12, 2016

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017

Community Relations

Spectator Conduct at School Events

Any individual, including an adult, who behaves in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner during any school event or meeting, including Board meetings, may be ejected from the event or meeting. The individual is also subject to being denied admission to school events or meetings for up to one calendar year, provided the procedures contained in this policy are followed. Examples of unsportsmanlike or disruptive conduct includes, but are not limited to:

- Using vulgar or obscene language,
- Possessing or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or illegal substance,
- Possessing a weapon, or any object that can reasonably be considered, or looks like, a weapon,
- Fighting or otherwise striking or threatening another person;
- Failing to obey the instructions of a security officer or School District employee,
- Engaging in any activity that is illegal or disruptive.

Procedures to Deny Future Admission to School Events or Meetings

Before any individual may be denied admission to school events or meetings as provided in this policy, the individual has a right to a hearing before the Board. The Superintendent or designee must provide the individual with a hearing notice, delivered or sent by certified mail with return receipt requested, at least 10 days before the School Board hearing date. The hearing notice must contain:

1. The date, time, and place of the Board hearing,
2. A description of the unsportsmanlike or disruptive conduct,
3. The proposed time period that admission to school events will be denied, and
4. Instructions on how to waive a hearing.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/24-24.

Nuding v. Cerro Gordo Community Unit School Dist., 730 N.E.2d 96 (Ill. App. 4, 2000)

CROSS REF.: 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

APPROVED: November 20, 2006

ADOPTED: December 18, 2006

Community Relations

Visitors To The Schools

Visitors are welcome at any School District building, provided their presence will not be disruptive. All visitors shall initially report to the Building Principal's office. Any person wishing to confer with a staff member shall contact that staff member by telephone to make an appointment. Conferences with teachers are held outside school hours or during the teacher's conference/preparation period.

Any staff member may request identification from any person on school grounds or in any school building; refusal to provide such information is a criminal act. The Building Principal or designee shall seek the immediate removal of any person who: (1) refuses to provide requested identification, (2) interferes with, disrupts, or threatens to disrupt any school activity or the learning environment, (3) or engages in an activity in violation of School Board policy 8:30, Conduct on School Property.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/24-25.

DRAFT: September 18, 2000

ADOPTED: October 16, 2000

Community Relations

Exclusive Bargaining Representative Agent

Please refer to the “Agreement Between Community Unit School District #3, Fulton County and Cuba Federation of Teachers Local #3799, IFT/AFT”.

Please refer to the “Agreement Between Community Unit School District #3, Fulton County and Cuba Federation of Support Staff Local #3799, IFT/AFT”.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/24-25.

ADOPTED: December 6, 1999

DELETED:

Community Relations

Accommodating Individuals With Disabilities

Individuals with disabilities shall be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities on an equal basis to those without disabilities and will not be subject to illegal discrimination. Where appropriate, the District may provide to persons with disabilities aids, benefits, or services that are separate or different from, but as effective as, those provided to others.

The District will provide auxiliary aids and services where necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal opportunity to participate in or enjoy the benefits of a service, program, or activity.

Each service, program, or activity operated in existing facilities shall be readily accessible to, and useable by, individuals with disabilities. New construction and alterations to facilities existing before January 26, 1992, will be accessible when viewed in their entirety.

The Superintendent or designee is designated the Title II Coordinator and shall:

1. Oversee the District's compliance efforts, recommend necessary modifications to the School Board, and maintain the District's final Title II self-evaluation document, update it to the extent necessary, and keep it available for public inspection, for at least 3 years after its completion date.
2. Institute plans to make information regarding Title II's protection available to any interested party.

Individuals with disabilities should notify the Superintendent or Building Principal if they have a disability which will require special assistance or services and, if so, what services are required. This notification should occur as far as possible before the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

Individuals with disabilities may allege a violation of this policy or federal law by reporting it to the Superintendent or designated Title II Coordinator, or by filing a grievance under the Uniform Grievance Procedure.

LEGAL REF.: Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq. and 12131 et seq.;
28 C.F.R. Part 35.
Rehabilitation Act of 1973 § 104, 29 U.S.C § 794 (2006).
105 ILCS 5/10-20.46.
410 ILCS 25/, Environmental Barriers Act.
71 Ill.Admin.Code Part 400, Illinois Accessibility Code.

CROSS REF.: 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 4:150 (Facility Management and Expansion Programs).

APPROVED: December 12, 2016

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017

Community Relations

Public Gifts to the District

The Board of Education appreciates gifts from any education foundation, other entities, or individuals. All gifts must adhere to each of the following.

1. Be accepted by the Board or, if less than \$500.00 in value, the Superintendent or designee. Individuals should obtain a pre-acceptance commitment before identifying the District, any school, or school program or activity as a beneficiary in any fundraising attempt, including without limitation, any Internet fundraising attempt.
2. Be given without a stated purpose or with a purpose deemed by the party with authority to accept the gift to be compatible with the Board's educational objectives and policies.
3. Be consistent with the District's mandate to provide equal educational and extracurricular opportunities to all students in the District as provided in Board policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*. State and federal laws require the District to provide equal treatment for members of both sexes to educational programming, extracurricular activities, and athletics. This includes the distribution of athletic benefits and opportunities.
4. Permit the District to maintain resource equity among its learning centers.
5. Be viewpoint neutral. The Superintendent or designee shall manage a process for the review and approval of donations involving the incorporation of messages into or placing messages upon school property.
6. Comply with all laws applicable to the District including, without limitation, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Prevailing Wage Act, the Health/Life Safety Code for Public Schools, and all applicable procurement and bidding requirements.

The District will provide equal treatment to all individuals and entities seeking to donate money or a gift. Upon acceptance, all gifts become the District's property. The acceptance of a gift is not an endorsement by the Board, District, or school of any product, service, activity, or program. The method of recognition is determined by the party accepting the gift.

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq., Title IX of the Education Amendments implemented by 34
C.F.R. Part 106
105 ILCS 5/16-1.
23 Ill. Admin. Code 200.40

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:210 (Instructional Materials), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities)

APPROVED: December 12, 2016

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017

Community Relations

Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs

Parent organizations and booster clubs are invaluable resources to the District's schools. While parent organizations and booster clubs have no administrative authority and cannot determine District policy, the School Board welcomes their suggestions and assistance.

Parent organizations and booster clubs may be recognized by the School Board and permitted to use the District's name, a District school's name, or a District school's team name, or any logo attributable to the District provided they first receive the Superintendent or designee's express written consent. Consent to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos will generally be granted if the organization or club has by-laws containing the following:

1. The organization's or club's name and purpose, such as, to enhance students' educational experiences, to help meet educational needs of students, to provide extra athletic benefits to students, to assist specific sports teams or academic clubs through financial support, or to enrich extracurricular activities.
2. The rules and procedures under which it operates.
3. An agreement to adhere to all Board policies and administrative procedures.
4. A statement that membership is open and unrestricted, meaning that membership is open to all parents/guardians of students enrolled in the school, District staff, and community members.
5. A statement that the District is not, and will not be, responsible for the organization's or club's business or the conduct of its members.
6. An agreement to maintain and protect its own finances.
7. A recognition that money given to a school cannot be earmarked for any particular expense. Booster clubs may make recommendations, but cash or other valuable consideration must be given to the District to use at its discretion. The School Board's legal obligation to comply with Title IX by providing equal athletic opportunity for members of both genders will supersede an organization or club's recommendation.

Permission to use one of the above-mentioned names or logos may be rescinded at any time and does not constitute permission to act as the District's representative.

The Superintendent shall designate an administrative staff member to serve as the liaison to parent organizations or booster clubs. The liaison will serve as a resource person and provide information about school programs, resources, policies, problems, concerns, and emerging issues. Building staff will be encouraged to participate in the organizations.

CROSS REF.: 8:80 (Gifts to the District)

APPROVED: December 12, 2016

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017

Community Relations

Parental Involvement

In order to assure collaborative relationships between students' families and the District, and to enable parents/guardians to become active partners in their children's education, the Superintendent shall:

1. Keep parents/guardians thoroughly informed about their child's school and education.
2. Encourage parents/guardians to be involved in their child's school and education.
3. Establish effective two-way communication between parents/guardians and the District.
4. Seek input from parents/guardians on significant school-related issues.
5. Inform parents/guardians on how they can assist their children's learning.

The Superintendent shall periodically report to the Board on the implementation of this policy.

CROSS REF.: 6:170 (Title I Programs), 6:250 (Community Resource Persons and Volunteers),
8:10 (Connection with the Community), 8:90 (Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs)

APPROVED: July 21, 2014

ADOPTED: August 18, 2014

Community Relations

Relations With Other Organizations and Agencies

The District shall cooperate with other organizations and agencies, including but not limited to:

- County Health Department
- Law enforcement agencies
- Fire authorities
- Planning authorities
- Zoning authorities
- Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), local organizations for civil defense, and other appropriate disaster relief organizations concerned with civil defense.
- Other school districts

CROSS REF.: 1:20 (District Organization, Operations and Cooperative Agreements), 4:170 (Safety); 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting); 7:150 (Agency and Police Interviews).

APPROVED: December 12, 2016

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017

Community Relations

Public Suggestions and Concerns

The School Board is interested in receiving suggestions and concerns from members of the community. Any individual may make a suggestion or express a concern at any District or School office. All suggestions and/or concerns will be referred to the appropriate level staff member or District administrator who is most able to respond in a timely manner. Each concern or suggestion shall be considered on its merit.

An individual who is not satisfied may file a grievance under Board policy 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*. The Board encourages, but does not require, individuals to follow the channels of authority prior to filing a grievance. Neither this policy nor the *Uniform Grievance Procedure* creates an independent right to a hearing before the Board.

CROSS REF.: 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:230 (Public Participation at School Board Meetings and Petitions to the Board), 2:260 (Uniform Grievance Procedure), 3:30 (Chain of Command), 6:260 (Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials and Programs), 8:10 (Connection with the Community)

APPROVED: December 12, 2016

ADOPTED: January 17, 2017