

Public Information Program

The District shall strive to maintain effective two-way communication channels with the public. Such channels shall enable the Board and staff to interpret the schools' needs to the community and provide a means for citizens to express their needs and expectations to the Board and staff.

Community opinion may be solicited through parent organizations, parent-teacher conferences, open houses and other such events or activities which may bring staff and citizens together. Survey instruments and/or questionnaires may be developed in order to gain a broad perspective of community opinion.

The Board of Trustees has the authority to judge whether information shall be considered public or confidential. Information considered public will be provided or available to the press via news releases, interview or other appropriate methods. Confidential information that might infringe on the privacy rights of individuals will not be made public.

Legal Information Sources

Schools shall operate in compliance with local, state and federal laws and regulations. The school will have available a copy of the District's policy and procedure manual. Rules and regulations of the Board of Public Education (Title 10 ARM) and the School Laws of Montana (MCA) shall be available in the County Superintendent's office. These publications shall be made available for use by staff, students, and interested citizens.

The Board is a nonpartisan public body and as such shall not endorse political candidates. Neither staff nor students shall be asked to disseminate candidate's campaign materials from the schools nor shall any of the District's facilities or communications services be used to disseminate such material. The Board may take positions of support or opposition on ballot issues affecting schools.

Legal Reference: § Article II, Sec. 10 Montana Constitution

Policy History:

Adopted on: 2008-09

Revised on: 01/28/2019