

3233 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education recognizes and encourages the right of all citizens, including teaching staff members, to engage in political activity. **However,** ~~t~~The Board prohibits the use of school **grounds** ~~premises~~ and school time, ~~however,~~ for partisan political purposes.

The Board establishes the following guidelines to govern teaching staff members in their political activities:

1. A teaching staff member shall not engage in political activity on school **grounds** ~~premises~~ unless permitted in accordance with Board Policy No. 7510 - Use of School Facilities and/or applicable Federal and State laws;
2. A teaching staff member shall not post political circulars or petitions on school **grounds** ~~premises~~ nor distribute such circulars or petitions to students nor solicit campaign funds or campaign workers on school **grounds** ~~premises~~;
3. A teaching staff member shall not display any material that would tend to promote any candidate for office on an election day **on** ~~in~~ a school **grounds** ~~facility~~ that **are** is used as a polling place;
4. A teaching staff member shall not engage in any activity in the presence of pupils while on school **grounds** ~~property~~, which ~~activity~~ is intended and/or designed to promote, further or assert a position(s) on labor relations issues.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.1., a ~~A teaching~~ **certificated** staff member employed by this district who is a member of the Senate or General Assembly of the State of New Jersey shall be entitled to time off from school district duties, without loss of pay, during the periods of **the teaching staff member's** ~~his/her~~ attendance at regular or special sessions of the legislature and hearings or meetings of any legislative committee or commission.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.2., a ~~A teaching~~ **certificated** staff member employed by this district who is a member of the Board of **County Commissioners** ~~Chosen Freeholders~~ of any county of New Jersey shall be entitled to time off from **the teaching staff member's** ~~his/her~~ duties, without pay, during the periods of **the teaching staff member's** ~~his/her~~ attendance at regular or special meetings of the Board of **County Commissioners** and of any committee thereof and at such other times as **the teaching**



staff member ~~he/she~~ shall be engaged in performing the necessary functions and duties of **the teaching staff member's** ~~his/her~~ office as a member of the Board **of County Commissioners**.

No other teaching staff member who holds elective or appointive office is so entitled to time off, except as such time off may be provided for by Board policy or negotiated agreement.

The provisions of this **P**olicy do not apply to the discussion and study of politics and political issues appropriate to the curriculum, the conduct of pupil elections, or the conduct of employee representative elections.

Nothing in this Policy shall be interpreted to impose a burden on the constitutionally protected speech or conduct of a **teaching** staff member or pupil.

N.J.S.A. 11:17-2

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.1; 18A:6-8.2; 18A:6-8.4; 18A:42-4

N.J.S.A. 19:34-42

Green Township v. Rowe, Superior Court of New Jersey - Appellate Division A-2528-98T5

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