

2360-10 Employee Conduct and Political Activities

1.0 Discussion of Political or Religious Issues in Classrooms

1.1 Political or religious issues, as they form part of the curriculum under study in a School District classroom, shall be dealt with in accordance with the British Columbia Teachers' Association's Code of Ethics and Regulations 1110-10 through 1110-50.

2.0 Distribution of Political or Religious Materials

2.1 There shall be no distribution of political or religious materials for the purpose of proselytism in schools.

2.2 Teachers are required to submit correspondence to their administrator for approval prior to sending it home to parents in order that administration is aware of what is being considered for distribution.

2.3 Subsection 2.2 does not include homework, notes or comments in agenda books, or documents specifically for students (e.g. Birthday cards).

2.4 Before rejecting, or requiring material changes to, any correspondence, administrators are required to consult with the Superintendent with respect to such correspondence.

3.0 Meetings of a Political or Religious Nature

3.1 Meetings of a partisan political or denominational religious nature may not be conducted as part of a curricular or extra-curricular activity for students. Meetings and displays of a partisan political or denominational religious nature conducted by community groups renting a School District facility shall be confined to areas to which the students do not, under normal circumstances, have access, or from which for the duration of such activities students have been excluded.

4.0 Running for Public Office

4.1 It is the privilege of any employee of the Board of Education to offer themselves as a candidate for any public office for which they may be eligible. They shall, however, first familiarize themselves with Board regulations by consulting the Superintendent.

- 4.2** In any case where, in the opinion of the Superintendent, the requirements of the public office would interfere with the carrying out of the duties of its employee, leave-of-absence must be obtained. Subject to the requirements of any collective agreement, full-time leave-of-absence will be granted, without pay, for the duration of the term of office. Upon application, part-time leave-of-absence may be granted where no loss to the educational program results. Such absence will be monitored by the Superintendent.
- 4.3** On expiration of the leave-of-absence, subject to the requirements of any collective agreement, the employee shall be re-engaged by the Board but not necessarily in the same position that they formerly held. Reasonable efforts will be made to place the returning employee in their former position or in a relatively equal position for which they are qualified.

Related Policies and Regulations:

Policy 2360: **Employee Conduct and Political Activities**
Regulation 5220-10: **Use of Schools, Grounds and Equipment**