

SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF

A clear understanding of responsibilities and relationships between and among the School Board and school personnel is essential for an effective and efficient school system. It should be remembered that the School Board, school administrators, teachers and all others responsible for any phase of the work of the school system have a common and basic responsibility--the welfare of the children in the schools. This responsibility must guide all of our considerations and decisions. A spirit of cooperation and mutual support must prevail between the School Board, staff, and all others if the optimal results are to be realized.

School Board and Superintendent

The relationship of the School Board and the superintendent can best be described as one of teamwork. They must pull together as some of their functions are not readily separable. However, the primary functions are separable and should be clearly understood by each.

The School Board is the legislative body of the school unit. It exercises its mandated management of the schools through the formation of policies. The superintendent is the executive officer of the School Board and the chief administrative officer.

All communications or reports to the School Board, or to any committee of the School Board, from principals, supervisors, teachers, or other employees shall be submitted through the superintendent for review by the School Board prior to the public meeting.

School Board and Principal

The relationship of the school principal to the School Board is indirect. The school principal is directly responsible to the Superintendent and through him/her to the School Board. The school principal must make recommendations to the superintendent and not to the School Board. At all times the principal must remember that all matters which require School Board action must be presented to the School Board by the superintendent. However, personal situations may arise when direct access to the School Board may be obtained through the Chairperson of the School Board.

School Board and Teachers

The relationship of teachers to the School Board is indirect. The teacher is directly responsible to the principal and through him/her to the superintendent, and then to the School Board. Conditions may arise when direct access may be obtained through channels established for grievances.

First Reading: May 3, 2000

Second Reading and Adoption: July 12, 2000