

NEW DIRECTOR ORIENTATION  
BOARD-STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

The Board desires to maintain open channels of communication between itself and the staff. The basic line of communication will, however, be through the District Superintendent.

Staff Communications to the Board

All official communications or reports to the Board or any Board committee from principals, supervisors, teachers, or other staff members shall be submitted through the Superintendent. This necessary procedure shall not be construed as denying the right of any employee to appeal under a negotiated contract or in accordance with the Board's policy on complaints and grievances. Staff members are also reminded that Board meetings are public meetings. As such, they provide an excellent opportunity to observe at first hand the Board's deliberations on problems of staff concern.

Board Communications to Staff

All official communications, policies, and directives of staff interest and concern will be communicated to staff members through the Superintendent, and the Superintendent will employ all such media as are appropriate to keep staff fully informed of the Board's problems, concerns, and actions.

Board Meetings with Staff

The board (but not individual directors) may meet from time to time with the staff or portions of the staff for the exchange of ideas. The Superintendent or his representative and other appropriate administrators shall be notified and my attend. No action may be taken at such a meeting.

Visits to Schools

Individual Board members interested in visiting schools or classrooms will make arrangements for visitations through the principals of the various schools. Such visits shall be regarded as informal expressions of interest in school affairs and not as "inspections" or visits for supervisory or administrative purposes. Official visits by Board members will be carried on only under Board authorization and with the full knowledge of staff, including the Superintendent, principals, and other supervisors.

Social Interaction

Staff and Board members share a keen interest in the schools and in education generally, and it is to be expected that when they meet at social affairs and other functions, they may informally discuss such matters as educational trends, issues, and innovations and general school district problems. Individual Board members are reminded that they have no special authority excepting when they are convened at a legal meeting of the Board or vested with special authority by Board action. Therefore, discussions of such matters as personalities or personnel grievances will be considered inappropriate behavior.

ADOPTED: Hanover 11 May 1977 REVISED: 2 August 1977