

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

The Board endorses the concept that community participation in the affairs of the schools is essential if the school system and the community are to maintain mutual confidence and respect and work together to improve the quality of education for students. It, therefore, intends to exert every effort to identify the desires of the community and to be responsive, through its actions, to those desires.

All citizens will be encouraged to express ideas, concerns and judgments about the schools to the school administration, the staff, to any appointed advisory bodies, and to the Board.

Residents, who are specially qualified because of interest, training, experience or personal characteristics, shall be encouraged to assume an active role in school affairs. From time to time, such persons may be invited by the Board to act as advisors individually and in groups in such areas as the following:

1. Clarifying general ideas and attitudes held by residents in regard to the schools.
2. Developing broad policies under which the school system is to be managed.
3. Establishing administrative arrangements and regulations designed to help implement these policies.
4. Determining the purposes of courses of study and special services to be provided for students.
5. Evaluating the extent to which these purposes are being achieved by present policies.
6. Solving a specific problem or set of closely related problems about which a decision must be made.

The Board and the staff shall give substantial weight to the advice they receive from individuals and community groups interested in the schools, especially those individuals and groups they have invited to advise them regarding selected problems, but shall use their best judgment in arriving at decisions.