



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

At the November 15, 2019 Board Meeting, the Board approved the first reading of the Board Policy (BP) Revisions for:

- BP 1000, Community Relations, Concepts and Roles
- BP 1260, Community Relations, Visits to the Schools;

And the Proposed new Board Policy:

- BP 1311, Community Relations, Participation in Community Life

Board policy revisions and/or new policies must go through at least two readings prior to adoption, therefore public comment period is now open. The deadline for comments is January 24, 2020.

Please review and submit your comments to Terri Walker, Interim Superintendent, by fax: 907-442-2246 or email: twalker@nwarctic.org. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Walker at 907-442-1802.

Explanation to the attachments:

- Bold and underlined = new language added to the policy
- Strikethrough = to delete the language in the policy

Posted: November 18, 2019

CONCEPTS AND ROLES

The School Board recognizes that local, regional, national, and international organizations, Alaska Native tribes, and all levels of government share its concerns and responsibility for the welfare, health and safety of our youth.

The School Board **further** recognizes that the state and local community determine the number of educational programs available and the quality of the educational process in general. Therefore, it is imperative that members of the community work with the School Board and staff in developing sound educational policies, implementing programs and establishing an effective evaluation process for those programs.

School/community relations cannot merely be described as a process of reporting and interpreting, but rather can be characterized as a partnership in pursuit of excellence. It is a partnership in which community members, educators, and other school personnel perform their respective roles in view of the best interests of the schools and, most importantly, the students.

The administration is responsible for all public communication except for such matters as the Board may wish to deal with publicly itself.

(cf. 1100 – Communication with The Public)

Legal Reference:

Alaska Statutes

14.03.120 Education Planning

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, Title VII, Part A, Subpart 1; 20 U.S.C. 7421-7429, 7491-7492

VISITS TO THE SCHOOLS

The School Board encourages parents/guardians and interested members of the community to visit the schools **to learn about, observe, or partner in educational and extracurricular programs** and view the educational program. The Superintendent or designee shall invite parents/guardians and the community to open house activities, **specific volunteer roles**, and other special events. **Announcements of these events shall have wide dissemination in the community.**

(cf. 1110 – Media Relations)

Visitors are encouraged to demonstrate the highest standard of conduct and courtesy to help create positive learning environments and to comply with all policies within the school.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures to facilitate visits during regular school days and register all visitors at the school office when entering school grounds. **Procedures for school visits will be posted in readily available locations such as the district website and in parent newsletters.**

(cf. 0411 – Service Animals)

The Board recognizes the staff time and commitment required **for** by school visits and encourages the staff to **develop practices to support community participation and to** accommodate as many requests for visits as possible. To ensure minimum interruption of the instructional program, visits during school hours should be first arranged with the teacher and principal or designee. If a conference is desired, an appointment should be set with the teacher during non-instructional time.

The District reserves the right to prohibit or limit access to school property and/or school events for individuals convicted of sex offenses against children.

(cf. 3515 – School Safety and Security)
(cf. 3515.2 – Intruders on Campus)
(cf. 1250 – Volunteer Assistance)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES
20 AAC 10.035 – Crimes of Moral Turpitude

Revised: February 2012

PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY LIFE

Note: The following optional policy may be revised to reflect district philosophy and needs.

The Board believes the school and community should work as a unified whole in the process of educating students enrolled in the District. Understanding community values and priorities are important to the ongoing success of the educational program. Staff members should be respectful of community values in their contacts with the community.

(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
(cf. 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)
(cf. 6141.3 – Culturally Responsive Education)

The quality of a school program is related to staff understanding of local culture and traditions, parents' wishes for their children, and public understanding of the District's goals and methods for education. Strong school-community relationships require cooperative development and maintenance of efficient two-way channels of communication between the school and the community. This communication should be fostered through dialogue, input, and feedback.

District communications with the public should meet the following goals:

- 1) inform the public about the work of the schools;
- 2) improve the partnership of parents and teachers in meeting the educational needs of students;
- 3) develop awareness of the importance of culture in education;
- 4) integrate the home, school, and community in improving educational opportunities;
- 5) clarify the aims, objectives, and work of the school;
- 6) make school facilities and personnel available for community use, within limits set by the Board; and
- 7) make use of community resources in carrying out the educational program.

(cf. 5124 –Communication with Parents/Guardians)

The School Board encourages affiliation of school personnel with community organizations having missions consistent with that of the District, and encourages participation of school staff in appropriate community activities and projects.

(cf. 6145.5 – Organizations/Associations)