

STAFF PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

The Board recognizes the right of its employees, as citizens, to engage in political activity. However, the Board also recognizes that school property and school time, paid for by all the people of the district, should not be used for partisan political purposes except as provided for in those policies and regulations pertaining to the use of school buildings by civic or political organizations.

Prohibited activities include the posting of political circulars or petitions, collection or solicitation of campaign funds, solicitations for campaign workers, the use of pupils in writing or addressing campaign materials, or the distribution of campaign materials to pupils on school district property or during school time in any matter which would indicate that a school employee is using a position in the school to further personal partisan views on candidates for public office or on unresolved questions of public policy in the political arena.

Violations of any of the foregoing will, at the discretion of the Board, constitute cause for reprimand, demotion, suspension or dismissal.

Nothing in this regulation will be interpreted as prohibiting teachers from conducting appropriate activities which encourage students to become involved in the political processes of the party of the students' choice or as independents; nor does it prohibit the use of political figures as resource persons in the classroom.

In view of the recent constitutional amendment granting the franchise to 18 year olds, school facilities may be used as meeting sites for student partisan political groups after regular school hours.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Iowa Code §§ 55; 279.8 (2003).

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DATE OF REVIEW: January 21, 2008

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MAQUOKETA VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DELHI, IOWA 52223