

POLICY GUIDE

TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

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Political Activities

Jan 22

3233 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education recognizes and encourages the right of all citizens, including teaching staff members, to engage in political activity. **However,** ~~the~~ Board prohibits the use of school **grounds premises** and school time, ~~however,~~ for partisan political purposes.

The Board establishes the following guidelines to govern teaching staff members in their political activities:

1. A teaching staff member shall not engage in political activity on school **grounds premises** unless permitted in accordance with Board Policy No. 7510 - Use of School Facilities and/or applicable Federal and State laws;
2. A teaching staff member shall not post political circulars or petitions on school **grounds premises** nor distribute such circulars or petitions to students nor solicit campaign funds or campaign workers on school **grounds premises**;
3. A teaching staff member shall not display any material that would tend to promote any candidate for office on an election day **on in a** school **grounds facility** that **are** is used as a polling place;
4. A teaching staff member shall not engage in any activity in the presence of students while on school **grounds property**, which **activity** is intended and/or designed to promote, further or assert a position(s) on labor relations issues.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.1., a **A teaching** ~~certificated~~ staff member employed by this district who is a member of the Senate or General Assembly of the State of New Jersey shall be entitled to time off from school district duties, without loss of pay, during the periods of **the teaching staff member's** ~~his/her~~ attendance at regular or special sessions of the legislature and hearings or meetings of any legislative committee or commission.



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In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.2., a A teaching certified staff member employed by this district who is a member of the Board of **County Commissioners Chosen Freeholders of any county of New Jersey shall be entitled to time off from **the teaching staff member's his/her** duties, without pay, during the periods of **the teaching staff member's his/her** attendance at regular or special meetings of the Board of **County Commissioners** and of any committee thereof and at such other times as **the teaching staff member he/she** shall be engaged in performing the necessary functions and duties of **the teaching staff member's his/her** office as a member of the Board of **County Commissioners**.**

No other teaching staff member who holds elective or appointive office is so entitled to time off, except as such time off may be provided for by Board policy or negotiated agreement.

The provisions of this Ppolicy do not apply to the discussion and study of politics and political issues appropriate to the curriculum, the conduct of student elections, or the conduct of employee representative elections.

Nothing in this Policy shall be interpreted to impose a burden on the constitutionally protected speech or conduct of a **teaching** staff member or a student.

N.J.S.A. 11:17-2

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.1.; 18A:6-8.2.; 18A:6-8.4.; 18A:42-4

N.J.S.A. 19:34-42

Green Township v. Rowe, Superior Court of New Jersey - Appellate Division
A-2528-98T5

Adopted: 14 September 2021

Reviewed/Revised: _____, 2022

