

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS

### Policy Statement

The Trumbull Board of Education recognizes that the community, defined broadly as the state and specifically as the area served by the school system, influences the quality of local education. It is imperative that members of the community and the school personnel cooperate in planning, developing policy, implementing programs and evaluating results.

In order to promote this cooperation, it is the policy of the Trumbull Board of Education to keep the Trumbull community informed of the many facets of our schools' endeavors. We will aim our efforts toward:

- increasing public understanding of the school system,
- developing community confidence and interest in the school system,
- effectively disseminating information concerning school activities,
- soliciting community opinion about the school system, and
- encouraging the sharing of resources among civic and community organizations, and businesses for the benefit of the school system.

Adopted: 2/21/84

Revised: 8/16/88

Amended: 5/95

Revised: 8/02/04

Regulations:

I. Board of Education

- A. The regular and special meetings of the Trumbull Board of Education are to be open to the public and representatives of the press except that a part of any meeting may be designated an executive session for appropriate reasons as designated by law.
- B. Advance announcement of all regular and, according to State law, 24 hours for special meetings of the Board of Education is to be made by a posting of the agenda and notice of meeting in the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall.
- C. Comments and questions from the audience will be part of the Board of Education meeting agenda.
- D. Adopted Board of Education policies will be made available to the public.
- E. The Trumbull Board of Education and its schools will operate under and subject to the conditions set forth in the Freedom of Information Act, as amended, which states that records be made available for inspection and for copying when correctly requested and unless specifically exempted by statute.

II. Trumbull Public Schools

- A. The Trumbull Public Schools are to be responsible for dissemination of information concerning school activities and issues deemed of interest to the public in general.
- B. The Trumbull Public Schools are encouraged to share resources for the educational benefit of students.

III. Administrators and Teachers

- A. The Superintendent will plan for periodic releases to the press and other area media, which will provide information to the community concerning the Trumbull schools.
  - Released information should be factual not speculative.
  - Information provided by school officials shall be "on the record."
  - The principal of each school will be the official spokesperson for his/her particular school.
- B. Trumbull Public School teachers and administrators are expected to be available by appointment to address concerns of individual parents, guardians and student.

**Regulations cont'd.**

IV. The Community

- A. Members of the community will be encouraged to become part of school support groups and ancillary committees addressing school issues and helping to evaluate them.
- B. Specific events will be held in which the public will be invited to participate.
- C. School groups may, as authorized by Board policy and regulations, participate in local public events which contribute to their educational growth and which do not unduly interfere with regular school programs.

Reference

- Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 14 Freedom of Information Act, Sections 1-200 through 1-241.
- Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-153d, Meeting between board of education and fiscal authority required. Duty to negotiate. Procedure if legislative body rejects contract.
- Trumbull Board of Education Policies

Confidentiality and Maintenance of Student Records, Policy Code: 5125

Directory Information, Policy Code: 5145.150

Use of Public School Buildings and Sites, Policy Code: 1330

Rules Governing Use of Buildings and Sites Booklet