

Community Relations

Public Performances by Students

The Board of Education recognizes the educational value from student participation in civic and community affairs. Teachers are encouraged to prepare students for public performances which contribute to student education when they don't interfere unduly with other educational activities or programs.

School groups may, as authorized by Superintendent's regulations, participate in local public events.

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Public Performances by Students

School groups may participate in:

1. Events sponsored by the schools. Educational events in which the school serves as host shall have priority in scheduling appearances.
2. Community functions in the interests of the school, such as those originated by a PTA/PTO or other parent groups.
3. Noncommercial civic occasions of local, state or national interest.
4. Events that are primarily patriotic in nature, such as Veteran's Day and Memorial Day.
5. Charity benefit activities provided such activity has been specifically approved in advance by the Superintendent.
6. Programs sponsored by established public agencies, or programs sponsored jointly by the school system and mass communication media where the time or space given to the programs are of a public nature.

School groups may not participate in events that fall into any of the following classifications:

1. Events where a school name, the names of school-sponsored groups or school equipment are exploited for private gain or for advertising of commercial projects or products where alcohol is promoted.
2. Events where alcohol may be accessible to students.
3. Events for furtherance of any politically partisan interest. In questionable cases the matter shall be referred to the Board of Education for its review.
4. Non-school events which unduly interfere with regular school programs, or that require excessive time for rehearsal or preparation.

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Public Videotaping of Educational Activity

The Board of Education (Board) hereby establishes limits on the use of recording equipment in order to minimize disruption and protect instructional time essential to improving student achievement. Any recording activity, even activity permitted under this policy, will be prohibited if the activity creates a disruption to the education process.

Definitions

Visual Recording: Registering visual images on film, tape, digitally or by other mechanical or electronic means.

Audio Recording: Registering sounds on tape, digitally or by other mechanical or electronic means.

Outside Entity: Any individual, group, organization or corporation other than the administration, officers, staff or students of the District or individuals authorized to act on behalf of the District.

Recording by Outside Entities

The Board prohibits the use of video or audio recording equipment on District property or at District activities by outside entities without permission from the Superintendent or his/her designee unless authorized by law.

This prohibition shall not apply to:

1. Performances or activities to which the general public is invited, such as athletic competitions, concerts and plays.
2. Recording of staff for the sole purpose of professional training or development.
3. Open meetings of the Board or committees appointed by or at the direction of the Board.
4. Outside entities, including student-initiated groups, using or renting District facilities in accordance with Board policies and established administrative procedures.

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Public Videotaping of Educational Activity (continued)

Recording by District Personnel

The District may make audio or visual recordings to provide security, to maintain order, for professional staff development use or for other purposes related to furthering the educational mission of the District. This may include the use of video equipment in school buildings and on District transportation. No recording equipment will be placed in areas of the building where the occupant would have a reasonable expectation of privacy, such as restroom facilities or locker rooms. Recordings by and on behalf of District personnel that include students will be considered student records and will be maintained in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and other applicable laws.

Recording by Students

The District prohibits the use of video or audio recording equipment on District property or at District activities by students except:

1. If required by a school-sponsored class or activity
2. At performances or activities to which the general public is invited such as athletic competitions, concerts and plays.
3. At open meetings of the Board of Education or committees appointed by or at the direction of the Board.
4. As otherwise permitted by the Building Principal.

Recording of Meetings

The Board of Education prohibits the use of audio, video or other recording devices at meetings held pursuant to the individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as well as other meetings between District employees and parents/guardians. Exceptions to this prohibition will be made only in accordance with Board policy and law. Requests for such exceptions must be made within a reasonable period of time prior to the scheduled meetings. This prohibition does not apply to conversations held within view of District security cameras or devices.

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Public Videotaping of Educational Activity (continued)

- (cf. 1112 – News/Media Relationships)
- (cf. 1112.6 – Video Taping of Staff/Students)
- (cf. 5125 – Student Records; Confidentiality)
- (cf. 5131.11 – Video Cameras on School Buses)
- (cf. 5131.111 – Video Surveillance)
- (cf. 9320 – Board Meetings)
- (cf. 9322 – Public and Executive Sessions)
- (cf. 9326 – Taping of Meetings)

Legal Reference: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C §§ 1400-1487,
 34 C.F.R. Part 300

 The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g
 34 C.F.R. Part 99

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EAST GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
East Granby, Connecticut