

Board of Education

Communications To and From the Board

The School Board welcomes communications from staff members, parents, students and community members. Individuals may submit questions or communications for the School Board’s consideration using the electronic link to the Board member’s email addresses that are posted on the District’s website or to the Superintendent. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act and the Oath of Office taken by Board members, individual Board members will not (a) reply to an email on behalf of the entire Board, or (b) engage in the discussion of District business with a majority of a Board-quorum.

The Superintendent or designee shall:

1. Ensure that the home page for the District’s website contains an active electronic link to the email address(es) for the School Board, and
2. Provide the Board, such as in the Board meeting packet, with all emails that are received and any feedback regarding them.

If contacted individually, Board members may refer the person to the appropriate level of authority, except in unusual situations. Board members’ questions or communications to staff or about programs will either be channeled through the Superintendent’s office or Board members will keep the Superintendent informed of such questions or communications. Board members will not take individual action that might compromise the Board or District. There is no expectation of privacy for any communication sent to the Board or its members, whether sent by letter, email, or other means.

Board Member Use of Electronic Communications

For purposes of this section, *electronic communications* includes, without limitation, electronic mail, electronic chat, instant messaging, texting, and any form of social networking. Electronic communications among a majority or more of a Board-quorum shall not be used for the purpose of discussing District business. Electronic communications among Board members shall be limited to: (1) disseminating information, and (2) messages not involving deliberation, debate, or decision-making. The following list contains examples of permissible electronic communications:

- Agenda item suggestions
- Reminders regarding meeting times, dates, and places
- Board meeting agendas or information concerning agenda items
- Individual responses to community members, subject to the other limitations in this policy

LEGAL REF.: 5 ILCS 120/1 et. seq., 50 ILCS 205/20

CROSS REF.: 2.220, 3.30, 8.110

Adopted: January 14, 1997

Revised: March 14, 2000
April 10, 2007

Reviewed: March 24, 2015
September 9, 2019