

1 Great Falls School District

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3 **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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5 Board/Staff Communications

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7 Every reasonable means of communication is encouraged throughout the education community.
8 Nevertheless, an organization must maintain some order and structure to promote efficient and
9 effective communications.

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11 Staff Communications to the Board

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13 All official communications or reports to the Board from principals, supervisors, teachers, or
14 other staff members shall be submitted through the Superintendent. This procedure shall not
15 deny any staff member the right to appeal to the Board from administrative decisions, provided
16 that the Superintendent shall have been notified of the forthcoming appeal and that it is
17 processed according to the applicable procedures for complaints and grievances. The provision
18 does not limit or restrict employees from engaging in public comment during Board meetings as
19 permitted by Montana law.

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21 Board Communications to Staff

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23 All official communications, policies and directives of staff interest and concern will be
24 communicated to staff members through the Superintendent. The Superintendent will employ all
25 such media as are appropriate to keep staff fully informed of the Board's concerns and actions.

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27 Visits to Schools

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29 Trustees share the responsibility to visit the schools of the District, mindful, however, of the need
30 to take care that the frequency and nature of their visits maintain the appropriate distinction
31 between their roles in oversight and due process vs. administrative/staff roles. Individual Board
32 members interested in visiting schools should, out of courtesy, make arrangements for visitations
33 through the principals of the various schools. Such visits shall be regarded as informal
34 expressions of interest in school affairs and not as "inspections" or visits for supervisory,
35 administrative, or staffing purposes.

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37 Social Interaction

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39 Staff and Board members share a keen interest in the schools and education. When they meet at
40 social affairs and other functions, informal discussion on such matters as educational trends,
41 issues, and innovations and general District problems can be anticipated. Discussions of
42 personalities or staff grievances are not appropriate.

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44 Legal Reference:

45 § 20-3-324(2), MCA Powers and duties

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1 Policy History:

2 Adopted on: July 1, 2000

3 Revised on: December 9, 2013

4 Revised on: May 9, 2022