

1 **1520 THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

2 Board/Staff Communications

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

6 **Staff Communications to the Board**

7 All official communications or reports to the Board from principals, supervisors, teachers, or other staff
8 members shall be submitted through the Superintendent. This shall not deny any staff member's right to
9 appeal to the Board from administrative decisions, provided that the Superintendent shall have been
10 notified of the forthcoming appeal and that it is processed according to the applicable procedures for
11 complaints and grievances.

12 **Board Communications to Staff**

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

16 **Visits to Schools**

17 Trustees are encouraged to visit the schools of the District, mindful, however, of the need to take care
18 that the frequency and nature of their visits maintain the appropriate distinction between their roles in
19 oversight and due process vs. administrative/staff roles. Individual Board members interested in visiting
20 schools should, out of courtesy, make arrangements for visitations through the principals of the various
21 schools. Such visits shall be regarded as informal expressions of interest in school affairs and not as
22 "inspections" or visits for supervisory, administrative or staffing purposes.

23 **Social Interaction**

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

28 Legal Reference:

29 § 20-3-324(21), MCA Powers and duties

30 Policy History:

31 Adopted on: July 1, 2000

32 Revised on: December 9, 2013