

Personnel

SUBJECT: EMPLOYEE POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

The Board recognizes the right of its employees, as citizens, to engage in political activities and to exercise their constitutionally protected rights to address matters of public concern.

However, a BOCES employee's constitutional rights to raise matters of public concern are limited when the speech or action occurs on BOCES grounds or during school times. Under these circumstances, the Board can impose reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of the speech or action, and can further regulate the content of the speech when it materially imperils the efficient operation of the BOCES.

Teachers may not use their classrooms or school surroundings as a means to promote their personal political views and beliefs. However, teachers are encouraged to address issues of current events for their instructional and informational value to students, to invite public and/or political figures to visit the classroom as a community resource, upon prior approval of the building principal, and to motivate students to participate in the political process.

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #3271 -- Solicitation of Charitable Donations
#3272 -- Advertising in the BOCES
#5560 -- Use of Federal Funds for Political Expenditures

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