

1 **1520 THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

2

3 **Board/Staff Communications**

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

7 **Staff Communications to the Board**

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

13 **Board Communications to Staff**

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

17 **Visits to Schools**

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

24 **Social Interaction**

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

29 Legal Reference:

30 § 20-3-324(21), MCA Powers and duties

31 Policy History:

32 Adopted on: July 1, 2000

33 Revised on: December 9, 2013