



School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast)

Administrative Regulations

ADMINISTRATION

1360

DISTRIBUTION OF UNION/POLITICAL MATERIALS

Purpose:

~~The Board recognizes that respectful debate about educational issues is important. In that regard,~~ Judicial and arbitral jurisprudence has clarified that teachers have the right to engage in political discussion and the freedom to express their views to parents on such educational issues under Section 2(b) of the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* (the Charter). Any restrictions on expression have to be justified under Section 1 of the Charter.

~~Administrative regulations for distributing union/political information on educational matters to parents must be considered within the established legal framework.~~

The right of teachers and support staff to further the debate with parents must be valued, but it must also be balanced with society’s interest in an effective and efficient school system, which maintains the confidence of students, parents and the public.

~~The Board requires t~~Teachers and support staff ~~to must~~ obtain prior approval of the Superintendent when distributing union/political information on educational matters on school property to parents or through students.

Practices:

1. Prior to distribution of any material ~~the Board of Education requires teachers and support staff to must~~ obtain approval of the Superintendent of Schools when distributing union/political information on educational matters on school property to parents or through students.
2. The ~~school or district administration~~ superintendent will review the information for its accuracy and relevance to educational matters. ~~Further, the review undertaken will determine the appropriateness of sending the information from the school to parents, taking into account the “pressing and substantial” objectives of the public school system.~~
3. ~~In determining the appropriateness of the materials for distribution, there must be a consideration of the balancing of rights and measures that may be taken to minimally impair~~

Date adopted: January 12, 2010
Revised: November 2013

Reference:
Board Policy 11.1, 11.4

Supt. Signature:



School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast)

Administrative Regulations

ADMINISTRATION

1360

~~the teacher's right of free speech while at the same time achieving the objectives of the school district.~~

- 4.3. Approval will be given or denied in writing within ~~48 hours~~4 working days of receipt of the proposed material ~~proposed (not including weekends or holidays).~~
- ~~5.4.~~ Should a union/political communication ~~on an educational matter~~ not be approved for any reason, the ~~employer superintendent or designate~~ will raise the matter with the local union president or designate.
- 6. ~~With respect to the accuracy, the content of the information must be accurate so that the expression is not misleading such that confusion and/or conflict are created. If the content or a portion of the communication is inaccurate/misleading, the employer will identify and request that the employee/union amend the inaccurate/misleading information. If the employee/union refuses to remove or amend the inaccurate/misleading portions as identified, the employer would then ban the entire distribution of the communication.~~
- ~~7.5.~~ Any approved communication ~~by the school district~~ must be placed in a sealed envelope and clearly marked/addressed to the parent/guardian. ~~Further, in order to ensure there is no confusion regarding from whom this communication is coming, t~~The document itself shall clearly indicate the author of the materialship.

Date adopted: January 12, 2010
Revised: November 2013

Reference:
Board Policy 11.1, 11.4

Supt. Signature: