



School District No. 46 (Sunshine Coast)

Governance Policies

2.0 GOVERNANCE

2.12 DISTRIBUTION OF UNION/POLITICAL MATERIALS

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.

Consequently:

2.12.1

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.

2.12.2

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

Date adopted: June 16, 2009
Revised:

Monitoring Frequency: ongoing