

The School Board of Gadsden County

Bylaws & Policies

Unless a specific policy has been amended and the date of the policy was revised is noted at the bottom of that policy, the bylaws and policies of The School Board of Gadsden County were adopted on June 25, 2013, and were in effect beginning June 26, 2013.

1112 - BOARD-STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

The School Board is a policy making body and its individual members do not have authority to direct the day-to-day operations of the District or its employees. Nevertheless, the Board believes that open channels of communication between itself and the staff will benefit the District. The preferred line of official communication should, however, be through the Superintendent.

A. **Staff Communications to the Board**

Communications regarding official business of the District from staff members to the Board or its committees should preferably be submitted through the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall forward such communications received from staff members to the Board no later than seven (7) days following receipt.

If a staff member chooses to communicate directly with the Board regarding District business, then that communication should be sent to all members of the Board and the Superintendent should be copied as well.

This communication protocol is not intended to deny any staff member his/her constitutional right of free speech or the right to appeal to or otherwise address the Board on important matters through established procedures.

B. **Board Communications to Staff**

All official communications, policies, and directives of the Board of staff interest and concern to the staff will generally be communicated through the Superintendent, who shall also keep staff members informed of the Board's concerns and actions.

C. **Social Interaction**

Both staff and Board members share an interest in the schools and in education generally, and it is to be expected that when they interact at social affairs and other functions, they will informally discuss such matters as educational trends, issues, and innovations, and general activities of the District. However, since Board members are not authorized to act on behalf of the Board unless in open public session or when specifically vested with such authority, Board members and members of the staff should not discuss personnel grievances or other complaints if procedures to seek remedy for such grievances or complaints have been established in Board policy or in the collective bargaining agreement.

F.S. 1001.32

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