

BOARD OF EDUCATION

2:140 Communications To and From the Board

The Board of Education welcomes communications from staff members, parents/guardians, students, and community members. Individuals may submit questions or communications for the Board's consideration to the Superintendent or may use the electronic link to the Board's email address(es) posted on the District's website.

The Superintendent or designee shall:

1. Ensure that the home page for the District's website contains an active electronic link to the email address(es) for the School Board.

If contacted individually, Board members will refer the person to the appropriate channel of authority, except in unusual situations. Board members' questions or communications to staff or about programs will be channeled through the Superintendent's office. Board members will not take private action that might compromise the Board or District. There is no expectation of privacy for any communication sent to the Board or its members, whether sent by letter, email, or other means.

Board Member Use of Electronic Communications

For purposes of this section, *electronic communications* includes, without limitation, electronic mail, electronic chat, instant messaging, texting, and any form of social networking. Electronic communications to, by, and among Board members, in their capacity as Board members, shall not be used for the purpose of discussing District business. Electronic communications among Board members shall be limited to: (1) disseminating information, and (2) messages not involving deliberation, debate, or decision-making. Electronic communications may contain:

- Agenda item suggestions
- Reminders regarding meeting times, dates, and places
- Board meeting agenda or public record information concerning agenda items
- Individual Board members' responses to questions posed by the community, administrators, or school staff, subject to this policy's first section

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act and the Oath of Office taken by Board members, individual Board members will not (a) reply to an email on behalf of the entire Board, or (b) engage in the discussion of District business through electronic communications with a majority of a Board-quorum.

LEGAL REF.:

5 ILCS 120/, Open Meetings Act.

50 ILCS 205/20, Local Records Act.

CROSS REF.: 2:220 (Board of Education Meeting Procedure), 3:30 (Chain of Command), 8:110 (Public Suggestions and Concerns)

Adopted: September 27, 2022