

EMPLOYEE PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

FILE: GBH

Purpose

To state the Board's position regarding employee participation in political activities

Definitions

Political Activity – the solicitation of support or opposition for a political candidate, political party, political ideology, or other issues which may or may not appear on a public ballot. Political activities include, but are not limited to: political literature, campaign buttons, endorsements, speeches, signs, and distributable political items such as balloons, ribbons, and pencils and other novelty items.

Policy Statement

The Board of Education of Allegany County affirms the principle that active participation is required by the individual citizen in our democratic form of government; but that such participation is limited within the school environment. Employees as citizens have the right and responsibility to vote, serve on juries, act as election judges, discuss political issues, serve the political party of their choice as party worker, delegate or official, campaign for candidates to public office, and campaign for and serve in public office.

In order to stimulate critical and thoughtful analysis by our students, the Board of Education recognizes the value of active participation, and the corresponding responsibility of equity and balance in presentation.

The Board of Education wishes to ensure:

1. that the learning environment not be distracted by political activity.
2. that no employee or student shall be obligated to contribute or render political service.
3. that no employee or student be subjected to political activity on school property during school hours or during a school sponsored activity.

Legal Reference			
Policy History	Adopted	Reviewed	Revised Jan. 9, 2007, 1 st Reading Feb. 13, 2007, 2 nd Reading March 13, 2007, 2 nd Reading May 8, 2012, 2 nd Reading