

POLICY ————— **PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP**
BOARD OF EDUCATION
TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS
3233 / PAGE 1 OF 1
Political Activities

3233 – POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education recognizes and encourages the right of all citizens, including teaching staff members, to engage in political activity. The Board prohibits the use of school premises and school time, however, for partisan political purposes.

The Board establishes the following guidelines to govern teaching staff members in their political activities:

1. A teaching staff member shall not engage in political activity on school premises except in accordance with Board Policy No. 7510 on the use of school facilities;
2. A teaching staff member shall not post political circulars or petitions on school premises nor distribute such circulars or petitions to pupils nor solicit campaign funds or campaign workers on school premises;
3. A teaching staff member shall not display any material that would tend to promote any candidate for office in a school facility;
4. A teaching staff member shall not engage in any activity in the presence of pupils while on school property, which activity is intended and/or designed to promote, further or assert a position(s) on labor relations issues.

A teaching staff member who is a member of the State Legislature or the County Board of Chosen Freeholders is entitled by law to time off from school district duties, without pay, during the time the member attends meetings of the Legislature or Board of Chosen Freeholders or any committee of those bodies. No other teaching staff member who holds elective or appointive office is so entitled, except as such time off may be provided for by Board policy or negotiated agreement.

The provisions of this policy do not apply to the discussion and study of politics and political issues appropriate to the curriculum, the conduct of pupil elections, or the conduct of employee representative elections.

Nothing in this Policy shall be interpreted to impose a burden on the constitutionally protected speech or conduct of a staff member or pupil.

N.J.S.A. 11:17-2; 19:34-42

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.1; 18A:6-8.2; 18A:6-8.4; 18A:42-4

Adopted: 11 November 1999

Revised and Adopted: 19 March 2012