

ROSEVILLE AREA SCHOOLS
Independent School District No. 623

Policy 716 – Political Campaigns

1.0 Purpose:

1.1 The purpose of this policy is to recognize the participation of students and employees in political campaigns and political issues while also recognizing the school district's position of neutrality as to all political campaigns and political issues.

2.0 General Statement of Policy

2.1 The School District will maintain neutrality as to all political campaigns and issues. The School District will not expend public funds or resources to support political candidates, parties, or issues. However, the School District may expend reasonable amounts to apprise voters in the School District of facts (e.g., where and when to vote, financial information about the District) pertinent to an election, bond issue or referendum.

2.2 The School District recognizes the rights of students and employees to participate in political campaigns and political issues, elections and public service and the right of students to pursue an education conducted in a suitable academic environment free from disruption.

2.3 To protect First Amendment rights, while at the same time preserving the integrity of the educational objectives and responsibilities of the School District, the School Board adopts the following regulations and procedures.

3.0 Procedures

3.1 Employees of the School District shall not use official authority or influence to compel a person to apply for membership in or become a member of a political organization, to pay or promise to pay a political contribution, or to take part in political activity.

3.2 School District employees, while acting in the capacity of a school district employee, shall refrain from conduct that is intended to be or that reasonably could be perceived as endorsing or opposing specific political issues or candidates that results in disruption of any kind to the educational environment or has a coercive influence on students, staff, or other members of the public.

3.3 The implementation of, and compliance with, this policy shall be coordinated by the Superintendent. All inquiries regarding school district elections, referenda, candidates and campaigns shall be referred to the Superintendent.

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- 4.0 As required by law, the School District will allow the use of public school buildings for the holding of a major political party precinct caucus, if the Community Education Director has received a written request for the use of the school building 30 days or more prior to the date of the caucus. Further, the School District will make its facilities available for legislative district or county conventions that are required by law. Finally, School District facilities will be made available for the holding of city, county, school district, state, and federal elections. The School District will impose a charge for the use of its facilities in an amount that does not exceed the lowest amount charged to any public or private group.

Adopted: 3/10/98
Revised: 10/23/08
Revised: 5/8/18