LENAPE TECHNICAL SCHOOL

SECTION: PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES

TITLE: POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

ADOPTED: January 18, 2007

REVISED:

421. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

1. Purpose

The Joint Operating Committee recognizes and encourages the right of its employees, as citizens, to engage in political activity. However, school property and school time, paid for by all the people, may not be used for political purposes when performing assigned duties.

2. Authority

The Joint Operating Committee adopts the following guidelines for those staff members who intend to engage in political activities.

3. Definition

Political activity includes the posting, preparing, or distributing of materials, or the making of oral or written campaign statements, which are to influence the outcome of an election or which are to promote or oppose the candidacy of any candidate or political party. This policy does not intend to prohibit casual conversations or discussions among employees regarding political races or candidates. The policy is directed to address actual campaigning on school property or during school hours.

4. Guidelines
Pol. 707

No professional employees shall engage in political activities upon property under the jurisdiction of the Joint Operating Committee, unless permission has been granted for that purpose through the Use of Facilities policy.

Political circulars or petitions may not be posted or distributed in school.

Collection and/or solicitation for campaign funds or campaign workers are prohibited on school property during working hours.

The use of students for writing, addressing or distributing partisan political materials is prohibited.

School employees who hold elective or appointive office are not entitled to time off from their school duties for reasons incident to such offices, except as such time may qualify under the leave policies of the Joint Operating Committee, the collective bargaining agreement, or State law.

The following situations are exempt from the provisions of this policy:

	1. Discussion and study of politics and political issues when appropriate to classroom studies. 2. Conduct of student elections and related campaigning. 3. Conduct of employee representative elections. Violation of this policy may constitute cause for disciplinary action.