

## Board of Trustees Douglas County School District

## STUDENTS

### Political Activities

The Board of Trustees respects, recognizes, and encourages the rights of students to engage in political speech. This policy is intended to ensure that student political activity is conducted in a manner consistent with the educational mission of the Douglas County School District ("DCSD") and the safe and orderly operation of the learning environment.

### POLICY STATEMENT

Students may engage in political expression and activities on school grounds, during non-instructional time, as long as such expression does not:

1. Substantially disrupt the educational process;
2. Interfere with the rights of others;
3. Involve the use of school resources for political advocacy; or
4. Suggest school endorsement of a political candidate, party, or position.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit students from engaging in campaign activities for school leadership offices or other school-based student elections. Should a student-group or an affiliated organization, such as a school-based booster club or a school-sponsored organization such as a PTA or PTO, obtain permission to hold a candidate night, political fair, or similar activity, all candidates for the offices represented must be given an equal opportunity to participate, speak, and/or display materials.

In view of the voting rights of eighteen-year-olds, school facilities may be used as meeting sites for student political groups before or after the regular instructional day or during lunch time, as approved by site administration, provided that any student who is under the age of eighteen may only attend such meetings or events with prior written approval from a parent or legal guardian. A teacher or a community person approved by the principal/designee must be in attendance at such meetings. Voter registration events for eligible students are permitted when approved by the principal/designee.

Reference: 4909-8279-5862 v.1

Date Adopted: 08/21/2025

Date Revised: