



POLICY

TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

**Haddonfield
Board of Education**

3233/Page 1 of 2
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. However, the Board prohibits the use of school grounds and school time, 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 grounds unless permitted in accordance with Board Policy No. 7510 - Use of School Facilities and/or applicable Federal and State laws;
2. A teaching staff member shall not post political circulars or petitions on school grounds nor distribute such circulars or petitions to students nor solicit campaign funds or campaign workers on school grounds;
3. A teaching staff member shall not display any material that would tend to promote any candidate for office on an election day in a school grounds that are used as a polling place;
4. A teaching staff member shall not engage in any activity in the presence of students while on school grounds, which is intended and/or designed to promote, further or assert a position(s) on labor relations issues.
5. A certificated staff member employed by this district who is a member of the Senate or General Assembly of the State of New Jersey shall be entitled to time off from school district duties, without loss of pay, during the periods of his/her attendance at regular or special sessions of the legislature and hearings or meetings of any legislative committee or commission.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-8.2., a teaching staff member employed by this district who is a member of the Board of County Commissioners of any county of New Jersey shall be entitled to time off from the teaching staff member's duties, without pay, during the periods of the teaching staff member's attendance at regular or special meetings of the Board of County Commissioners and of any committee thereof and at such other times as the teaching staff member shall be engaged in performing the necessary functions and duties of the teaching staff member's office as a member of the Board of County Commissioners.

No other teaching staff member who holds elective or appointive office is ~~so~~ entitled to time off, 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 student elections, or the conduct of employee representative elections.



POLICY

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TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

3233/Page 2 of 2
Political Activities

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

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

N.J.S.A. 19:34-42

Green Township v. Rowe, Superior Court of New Jersey - Appellate Division A-2528-98T5

Adopted: 1/24/2019

BOE Revised Date: 3/24/2022

BOE Approved Date: 1/24/2019



REGULATION

TEACHING STAFF MEMBERS

**Haddonfield
Board of Education**

R 3233/ Page 1 of 2
Political Activities

R 3233 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

A. Prohibited Activities

The following political activities are prohibited on school district premises:

1. Posting of political circulars or petitions on bulletin boards that are not sponsored by the school and included as part of the school curriculum and/or program;
2. The distribution to employees, whether by placing in their school mailboxes or otherwise, of political circulars or petitions, except as delivered by the U.S. Postal Service;
3. Collection of and solicitation for campaign funds;
4. Solicitation for campaign workers;
5. Use of students for writing or addressing political materials or the distribution of such materials to or by students;
6. Display of any materials that promote the candidacy of any candidate for office by a person working on an election day in a district facility used as a polling place; and
7. Any activity in the presence of students while on school property, which activity is intended and/or designed to promote, further or assert a position(s) on labor relations issues.

B. Permitted Activities

The following political activities are permitted on school premises.

1. Conduct of student and employee elections and any campaigning connected with those elections.
2. Classroom discussion and study of politics and political issues, when such discussion and study are appropriate to studies such as history, current events, or political science.
3. Distribution of political materials when approved by the Principal and when relevant to the class, curriculum, and maturity of the students. Any such material shall be presented by the teacher without bias or discrimination.

C. Nothing in this Regulation shall be interpreted to impose a burden on the constitutionally



REGULATION

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R 3233/ Page 2 of 2
Political Activities

protected speech or conduct of a staff member or student.

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