

CLASSIFICATION	CODE
Section A: Foundations and Basic Commitments	File: AB

TITLE	THE PEOPLE AND THEIR SCHOOL DISTRICT
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POLICY

The Board of School Trustees (the “Board”) has the dual responsibility for implementing the law, as it applies to public education, and for realizing the local community's desires for educating its youth. The Board has an obligation to listen to citizens' concerns; however, it should be understood that, when citizens elect delegates to represent them in the conduct of public education, they thereby endow those representatives with the authority to exercise their best judgment in setting policies, making decisions, and allocating funds to carry out that responsibility.

The Board declares the following intentions.

- To maintain open communications with the citizens of the district . The public will be kept informed of the progress and problems of the schools, and citizens will be urged to bring their concerns to the attention of the Board that they have chosen to represent them in governing the schools.
- To set policies and make decisions on the basis of clear educational philosophy and goals. All decisions made by the Board will be based on those clear purposes, the most crucial of which is the optimal learning of all children enroled in our schools.
- To act as a truly representative body for citizens of the district in matters of public education. The Board recognizes that ultimate responsibility for public education in British Columbia rests with the Provincial Government, but individual boards in the province have been assigned specific authority through statute. The Board will relinquish none of this authority, since it believes that decision-making control over children's learning should be in the hands of local citizens as much as possible.

REFERENCES

Current practice codified 1982
Responsibility: SUPT.

SMT

Adopted: 1982 October 18

Revised: 1990 August 01
1996 December
1999 January

LEGAL REFS: *School Act* Secs. 65, 74(1), 85

CROSS REFS.: AB subcodes (all deal with involvement in decision-making)
BG Board-Staff Communications
KB Public Information Program (and all subcodes)
KM subcodes (all deal with community organizations)

Vancouver School Board, School District No. 39 (Vancouver), Vancouver, B.C.