

Community Relations

Visits to the Schools

The Board of Education and staff of the school district welcome and strongly encourage members of the community and other interested persons to visit the schools.

Board of Education members are expected to visit schools to become acquainted with school personnel and programs; however, Board members have authority only in scheduled meetings of the Board, as members of Board committees or when delegated specific tasks by specific Board action.

Members of the public and individual Board members interested in visiting schools or classrooms will make arrangements for visitations through the administrators of the various schools. Such visits shall be regarded as expressions of interest in school affairs and/or efforts to become informed about school programs and activities.

Subject to the direction and approval of the Board, the Superintendent is authorized to establish such reasonable regulations as will:

1. Ensure student safety.
2. Encourage parents, guardians and other family members of students to visit our schools.
3. Provide for appropriate hospitality for visitors.
4. Require all visitors to register in the office of the Principal upon their arrival at the school.
5. Ensure that the orderly process of school activities is not disrupted.
6. Channel expressions of approval as well as constructive criticism to the school administration and to the Board of Education.

Since we strive to maintain continuity in instruction, while visiting in a classroom, a visitor must not interrupt the class in any way, nor speak to (unless invited to do so) or disturb the students or teacher.

The Principal or her/his designee shall have complete authority to exclude from the school premises any persons whom s/he has reason to believe are disrupting the educational programs in the classroom or in the school, are disturbing the teachers or students on the premises, or whom the Principal believes are on the premises for the purpose of committing an illegal act.

Community Relations

Visits to the Schools (continued)

Visitor Registration

All visitors must register in the office of the school principal. Staff members should be alert to the possibility of unauthorized visitors and promptly report any concerns to the Principal. Any person shall be considered loitering on school grounds when he/she loiters or remains in or about a school building or grounds, without any reason or relationship involving custody of or responsibility for a student or any other license or privilege to be there.

Visitors not associated with the schools may not initiate, direct, conduct, control or regularly attend the meetings of student groups.

(cf. 9010 - Responsibilities and Limits of Authority)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-151b Evaluation by superintendents of certain educational personnel

53a-185 Loitering in or about school grounds: Class C misdemeanor.

Policy adopted: May 7, 2001
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NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Milford, Connecticut