

**Public Activities Involving Staff or Students****POLITICS--PARTICIPATION OF STAFF**

The Board recognizes and encourages the rights of its employees, as citizens, to engage in political activity, with the following restrictions:

1. No employee shall, in the furtherance of any candidacy for nomination or election to public office in any election, provide campaign services to the candidate during working hours. See §106.15(3), Fla.Stat.
2. No employee shall use his/her official authority or influence for the purpose of coercing or influencing another person's vote. §104.31(1)(a), Fla.Stat. Activity prohibited under this section includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - a. using school district email servers and individual school district-provided email accounts for political purposes;
  - b. campaigning during official school hours or otherwise attempting to influence votes when a district school is being used as a voting precinct on an election day; and
  - c. directly or indirectly or expressly using students to communicate political messages to parents and the community.
3. No employee shall directly or indirectly coerce or attempt to coerce, command or advise any other employee to contribute any money or anything else of value to any party, committee, organization, agency or person for political purposes. However, nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit an employee from suggesting to another employee in a non-coercive manner that he or she may voluntarily contribute to a fund which is administered by a party, committee, organization, agency, person, labor union or other employee organization for political purposes. §104.31(1)(b), Fla.Stat.
4. No employee shall make or solicit or knowingly accept any campaign contribution in a building owned by the school district. This subsection shall not apply when a school district-owned building or any portion thereof is rented for the specific purpose of holding a campaign fund-raiser. §106.15(4), Fla.Stat.
5. No employee, in the furtherance of his/her candidacy for nomination or election to public office in any election shall use any school board-owned motor vehicle solely for the purpose of furthering his/her candidacy. See §106.15(2), Fla.Stat.

6. Use of school district email servers and individual school district-provided email accounts for the purpose of distributing political communications of any nature constitutes an inappropriate and unacceptable use under School Board Rule 6Gx13-6A-1.112, Acceptable Use Policy for the Exploration and Utilization of the Internet as a Tool for Learning, and is prohibited.
7. Distribution of political materials to students, in an effort to communicate political messages to parents and the community, is inconsistent with the policy set forth in School Board Rules 6Gx13-1A-1.16, Materials - Distribution Through Students, and 6Gx13-1A-1.161, Materials Distribution – Through Students, and is prohibited.
8. No employee shall use any School Board property, including district-provided email accounts, for political purposes, including influencing an election.

Nothing in this rule shall be construed to limit an employee's right to engage in political activity as set forth in §104.31, Fla.Stat.

Specific Authority: 104.31; 106.15; 1001.41(1)(2); 1001.42(22); 1001.43(10) F.S.  
Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: 1012.53(2) F.S.

**History:** THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
Repromulgated: 12-11-74  
Amended: 7-12-95; 5-14-03