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SCHOOL COMMUNITY COOPERATION

The Board functions within the community by statutory authority to provide educational programs for school-age children. While it is the specific function of the Board, all agencies of the community are working toward a common goal of individual and group progress in a democratic society. To this end, the Board will cooperate fully with the community where possible and practical in matters of mutual concern.

SCHOOL – GENERAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The Board as an independent body has no statutory relationship to other governmental bodies other than that dictated by ethics, customs, and legal rules and regulations – the Board operates by statute and is held accountable at the local level. It will, however, cooperate with other governmental agencies, both educational and civic, to achieve the goal of all governmental bodies, namely, to serve the best interests of the youth and citizens of New Mexico.

Local Government

While the Board will maintain complete autonomy at all time, it will in cases deemed to be in the best interest of the youth and taxpayers of the District, work cooperatively with local governmental agencies.

Fiscal Authorities

In fiscal matters at the local level, the Board, through the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with the county treasurer and tax assessor particularly as pertains to: (i) county valuation, (ii) school district valuation, (iii) school tax collection, and (iv) school bonds.

Taxation Authorities

In taxation matters at the local level, the Board, through the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with the county tax assessor and the City Commission particularly as pertains to: (i) property assessment, (ii) tax rates, and (iii) school district taxes and method of collection and distribution.

Elections – Referendums

The Board, through the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with the county election officials particularly in the areas of: (i) school bond elections, and (ii) school board elections.

Public Health Authorities

The Board, through the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with city and county health authorities, particularly as it pertains to: (i) sanitation programs, (ii) sanitation inspections, (iii) inoculations, (iv) cafeteria operations, (v) health education programs, and (vi) drug abuse programs.

Public Welfare Authorities

The Board, through the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with public welfare authorities, particularly as pertains to: (i) aid for dependent children, (ii) school attendance, and (iii) student welfare.

Parks and Recreation Department

The Board, through the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with the City Parks and Recreation Department pertaining but not limited to: (i) summer recreation program, (ii) baseball complex, and (iii) school facilities.

Police Department

The Board, through the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with police authorities, pertaining but not limited to: (i) student and crowd control, (ii) school zones (traffic and parking), (iii) safety education programs, (iv) drug abuse education programs, (v) driver education programs, and (vi) protection of school property.

Fire Department

The Board, through the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with the City Fire Department, pertaining, but not limited to: (i) fire drills, (ii) fire hazard inspections, (iii) fire prevention programs, and (iv) fire safety programs.

Civil Defense Agency

The Board, through the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with Civil Defense agencies, pertaining, but not limited to: (i) disaster drills, (ii) disaster preparedness, (iii) use of school facilities, and (iv) use of school personnel.

Industrial Development Authorities

The Board, through the Superintendent, will maintain liaison with industrial development authorities, pertaining, but not limited to: (i) school sites, (ii) industrial zones, (iii) school district valuation, (iv) school district population, (v) educational opportunities, and (vi) school district tax rate

State Government

The Board derives its powers from the State Constitution, the State Legislature, and finally, the State Board of Education. It is imperative that clear channels of communication be maintained with state level agencies which have an influence on the education program. Among the agencies at the state level not directly concerned with education, but having a great impact on education are: (i) the Legislative Council, (ii) the Legislative School Study Committee, (iii) the Legislative Finance Committee, (iv) the House and Senate Education Committees, (v) the Department of Finance and Administration, (vi) the State Auditor, (vii) the State Treasurer, and (viii) the State Land Commissioner.

Legislative Representatives

The Board will maintain a close working relationship with the elected Senate and House representatives from Lea County. The Board will seek support of all desirable legislation, but particularly legislation which favorable affects the education program.

School personnel will make every effort to keep the Lea County legislators adequately informed concerning education.

Federal Government

The Board is increasingly involved in federal projects which deal with education. The Board desires a relationship with the federal government which centers on mutual respect for the tasks each must accomplish.

Congressional Representatives

The Board will maintain a harmonious relationship with elected federal representatives from New Mexico. The Board will seek support of all desirable legislation, but particularly legislation which favorably affects education.

SCHOOL – COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION RELATIONS

The Board desires the relationship between the schools and community organizations be one of mutual confidence and respect with each working toward the betterment of the community and perpetuation of the democratic society in which we live.

Private Social Service Agencies

The Board accepts the obligation of assisting citizens of the community to receive education and training regardless of age or physical condition. To fulfill this obligation, the Board will cooperate by providing or sharing personnel, goods, and services where it is legally possible to do so.

Parent Organizations

The Board welcomes the support of parent organizations in the School District. The Superintendent will define the scope of responsibilities for such organizations in order to insure that neither the position of the School District nor the parent organization is compromised.

Churches

One of the most important relationships in the community is that which exists between local religious bodies and the Board. The scope of each is well defined and at no time will one interfere with the other.

Business and Labor Organizations

The Board desires that relationships between the business community and the School District be of the highest order. All school personnel will be cognizant of the part business plays in supporting the School District and in furthering the free enterprise concept of our democracy.

