

Community Relations

Political Activities of School Employees

School employees are encouraged to assume the full responsibility of citizens living in a democracy including such citizen rights as voting, discussing the social, political, and economic issues of the day in public meetings; supporting candidates; accepting appointive or elective public office; or holding office in political parties.

Performance of Civic Duties by Employees

Employees should be expected to perform their civic duties commensurate with democratic ideals. These duties may include:

1. Voting and taking an interest in the social, political, and economic issues of the day.
2. Exercising democratic rights and responsibilities which are shared in common with other citizens. These rights and privileges may include:
 - a. Electioneering for candidates.
 - b. Accepting positions in political campaigns.
 - c. Holding an office in a political party organization.
 - d. Serving as delegate to political party conventions.

Individual Responsibility in Participating in Political Functions

Employees engaging in political activities shall:

1. Realize their primary obligation is to their work as educators.
2. Help others understand that employee opinions and actions are expressed as individuals and not as representatives of any educational institution.
3. Engage in no political activities on school premises during school hours.

Personal Leave for Political Activities

Leaves of absence without pay for political activities may be granted for the purpose of being a candidate for political office or holding political office upon proper request and mutual agreement.

Community Relations

Political Activities of School Employees

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

7-421 Political activities of classified municipal employees - re limitations.

7-421b Limitation on restriction of political rights of municipal employees.

10-156e Employees of boards of education permitted to serve as elected officials; exception. P.A. 84-532 An Act Concerning Political Activity of Public Employees. (re leave of absence without pay)

Policy adopted: April 24, 2003

WATERFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Waterford, Connecticut