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### COMMUNICATING WITH THE PUBLIC

The Board will keep the community informed of the status of the schools through advertised public meetings, press releases and such other means as may be appropriate.

The public information program of the Board and the district shall be directed by the Superintendent or his/her designee, who shall arrange to keep the public informed regarding the policies, administrative operations, objectives, and successes or failures of the schools and shall provide interpretation and explanation of the schools' plans and programs.

The district's budget; its audit; its annual goals and its progress toward achievement of them; its special education plans; its bilingual/ESL program; pupil progress toward achievement of the Core Curriculum Content Standards; graduation statistics and any other information shall be communicated to the public as required by law.

The Board's meetings and records shall be a matter of public information except as such meetings and records pertain to individual personnel, other classified matters, and as otherwise provided by law.

Each year by September 30 the Superintendent or his/her designee shall oversee the compilation of a report card of each school in the district that includes all statistical information specified by the State Department of Education and any additional information required by federal law. The report card shall be disseminated to staff and parents/guardians and made available to the media and other interested members of the school community.

The homepage of each school and the District website will include the grade received from the Commissioner of Education on the effort of each school and the District to implement policies and programs consistent with the laws on Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying. The Superintendent or his/her designee will oversee the postings. The grade will be posted within ten (10) days of the District's receipt of same. In addition, the District will provide a link to the twice-yearly report prepared by the Superintendent detailing the number and nature of Violence Vandalism, and Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying Reports in the schools.

#### Avoiding Excessive Expenditures when Communicating with the Public

District publications will be produced and distributed in a cost-efficient manner, for example:

- A. Use of expensive materials or production techniques is prohibited when lower cost methods are available. Use of color glossy publications is prohibited.
- B. Distribution of pictures of school board members is prohibited within 90 days of any district election.
- C. Excessive public relations activities that are not part of the instructional program are prohibited.

Date: February 11, 1997  
 Reviewed/Revised: November 24, 2008  
 Revised: September 26, 2011

**Legal References:**

N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.	Open Public Meetings Act
N.J.S.A. 18A:7E-2 to -5	School report card program
N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46	Act of Violence; report by the school employee; notice of action taken; annual report;
N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq.	Examination and copies of public records ("Open Public Records Act")
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1(a)3	Curriculum and instruction
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2	Public relations and professional services
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-8.1 et seq.	Budget Review and Approval
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.5	Commissioner to ensure achievement of CCCS
N.J.A.C. 6A:30-3.1	Comprehensive review of public school districts
N.J.A.C. 6A:30-1.4(a)1	Evaluation process for the annual review
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-12.1	Reporting Requirements
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-12.2	School-level planning
No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. 107-110, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.	

**Possible Cross References:**

1000/1010	Concepts and roles in community relations; goals and objectives
1120	Board of education meetings
2240	Research, evaluation and planning
3570	District records and reports

Possible Cross References: (cont.)

5124	Reporting to parents/guardians
6142.2	English as a second language; bilingual/bicultural
6142.6	Basic skills
6142.10	Technology
6171.1	Remedial instruction
6171.3	At-risk and Title 1
6171.4	Special education
6300	Evaluation of the instructional program