



SECTION 5000: GOVERNANCE

POLICY 5015: COMMUNICATIONS & CONSULTATION WITH THE PUBLIC

- *Date Adopted: December 13, 2023*
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POLICY STATEMENT

The Board will promote and support a program of communication between the school district and all Partners, including Rightsholders.

“Rightsholder” means an individual recognized as having legally acknowledged rights, often linked to land, resources, culture, or self-governance, based on historical occupation or use of specific territories and both recognized and protected by legal agreements, court decision or legislation.

POLICY

The Board will make information concerning policies, programs, and plans in the school district freely available. The Board will organize opportunities to ensure public input and will take steps to consult the public on issues where it is deemed appropriate.

PROCEDURES

1. The responsibility for the development and implementation of school district engagement with the public lies with the Superintendent of Schools. This includes engagements and consultations with any individual or group who can affect, or is affected by, the achievement of the Board’s legislated mandate, and specifically, the goals of the school district’s strategic plan. Trustees are responsible for oversight of the engagement process, achieved through dialogue between the Superintendent and the Board, and Trustee participation is determined in consultation with administration.
2. District communications will include the timely sharing of useful information, planned presentations for the improved understanding and involvement of relevant groups, and two-way communication to discuss courses of action, goals, priorities, and standards.
3. At its regular meeting, the Board will accept briefs, hear comments, and attempt to answer questions from members of the public.



PROCEDURES *(continued)*

4. Briefs will be responded to at a later meeting or at a time deemed appropriate.
5. All media requests for information shall come to the office of the Superintendent of Schools for response.
6. Representatives of local news media and press are invited to be present at all general meetings of the Board of Education.
7. Information contained in reports to the Board is provided to the news media by the Board Chair, the Superintendent of Schools, or the Secretary Treasurer after such reports have been accepted by the Board.