

## AMHERST and MONT VERNON POLICY

### **BHC – BOARD-STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

The Board desires to maintain open channels of communication between itself and the Staff, which for purposes of this policy means all individuals who report to the Superintendent whether directly or indirectly. The basic line of communication will, however, be through the Superintendent.

#### Staff Communications to the Board

All official staff communications or reports from Staff to the Board or any Board committee shall be submitted through the Superintendent.

#### Board Communications to Staff

All official Board communications, policies, and directives of Staff interest and concern will be communicated to Staff through the Superintendent, and the Superintendent will employ all such media as are appropriate to keep Staff fully informed of the Board's actions and concerns.

#### Visits to Schools

Board members, as individuals and not representatives of the Board, are encouraged to visit schools or classrooms in an unofficial capacity, and should make arrangements for visitations through the principals. Such visits shall be regarded as informal expressions of interest in school affairs and not as "inspections" or visits for supervisory or administrative purposes. Official visits by Board members will be carried on only under Board authorization and with the full knowledge of the Superintendent and principal.

#### Social Interaction

Staff and Board members share a keen interest in the schools and in education generally, and it is to be expected that when they meet at social affairs and other functions, they will informally discuss such matters as educational trends, issues, and innovations and general District concerns. However, board members should remind staff that individual Board members have no special authority except when they are convened at a legal meeting of the Board or vested with special authority by Board action. Therefore, discussions of personalities or personnel grievances will be considered unethical behavior by the school board member.

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