

No. 1265  
SECTION: COMMUNITY RELATIONS  
TITLE: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/COMMUNITY RELATIONS  
  
ADOPTED: 12/15/08  
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REVISED:

## **OXFORD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The purpose of community engagement is to create a collaborative environment in which students, parents/guardians, families, residents, businesses and community organizations are encouraged and invited to be involved stakeholders in the school community.

Community engagement is defined as an ongoing process in which the district works with the public to build understanding, guidance and active support for the education of students in the community.

The Board endorses the concept that community engagement is essential for the district and the community to maintain mutual understanding, respect and trust, and to work together to improve the quality of education for District students. The Board intends, through this communication, to identify the community's concerns, needs and suggestions and to be responsive to the community through the Board's actions.

The Board also recognizes that the public offers resources of training and experience useful to the schools. The quality of the district's operations and programs can be strengthened when these resources are used in student cooperative programs or in an advisory capacity.

The administration shall develop and use varied, effective communication to ensure that all community members receive information about district and school programs and the available opportunities to become actively involved.

When evaluating the community's suggestions, the Board and administration will consider the impact on the district's goals, operations, educational programs, and financial resources. Recommendations made by the community shall not reduce the authority or responsibility of the Board, which may accept or reject such recommendations.

In reviewing community engagement programs, the administration shall keep in mind that the schools shall:

1. Maintain impartiality among all constituents who promote worthy causes.
2. Not be used to promote private or commercial interests.
3. Not be used for direct sales promotion of goods or services.
4. Not assign students to outside tasks that do not primarily benefit the students.

The district shall communicate to the community the Board's decision and its rationale regarding an issue involving community engagement.