

# Policy

## Board of Education Randolph

No. 934.0  
COMMUNITY

### Public Information

The success of the school system is dependent upon the cooperation and participation of many people. The Board believes that the advancement of education is served when the community has confidence in the school system, and that such confidence is grounded in an understanding of the Board's purposes and an awareness of the school's programs and facilities.

Any position statement of the Board shall be approved by the Board at a regular meeting and made a part of the official minutes.

### Board of Education Community Relations Committee

The Board recognizes the need for maximum Board-school-community interaction relating to the policy and operation of the Randolph schools. In addition to utilizing the appropriate media to keep the public informed, the Board solicits the views of individuals and organizations on present and future educational programs and processes.

The Board Community Relations Committee will establish a regular meeting schedule and encourage the public to inquire, learn about, and express a continuing interest in the operation of the schools. The Committee will keep the Board apprised of questions, comments and suggestions which are expressed by residents of the community.

### School Beat

In support of this policy, the Board shall utilize appropriate media through which the purposes, values, and needs of the schools may be communicated and shall assist representatives of such media in presenting a true picture of the school system. One such method to be used in informing the community as to what is happening in the schools is the district publication School Beat to be published with school and Board news.

Each year the Randolph Schools will publish an issue of School Beat devoted exclusively to candidates who have filed for vacant seats on the Board of Education. This issue will be prepared approximately five weeks prior to the election. Only announced candidates shall have access to the School Beat forum.

The length of statements based on the number of candidates and the space available in School Beat will be determined by the administrator in charge of the issue. All candidates shall be granted the same number of words. Any candidate who submits more than the maximum allotment of words shall have the opportunity to revise the statement. All statements will appear unedited in School Beat. Statements received after the deadline (as stated in the letter to candidates) will not be published.

It shall also be the responsibility of each candidate to supply a black and white photograph to appear with the statement. The names and statements will appear in School Beat in the same order they are listed on the sample ballot.

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### News Releases

The Board and the Superintendent shall follow a continuing program of information designed to acquaint the citizens of the community and the public with the achievements and the needs of the schools. For this purpose, the Director of Related Programs shall be responsible for:

- A. School Beat
- B. News releases and the publication of education reports
- C. The photographing of school activities for publication

In order to coordinate the dissemination of student and staff information, staff members will submit articles slated for publication to the building principal or supervisor. The administrator will forward press releases to the Director of Related Programs for publication.

All press releases on district programs or procedures representing the official position of this district by any of its employees shall be approved by the Superintendent prior to release to the media.

Official Board press releases representing the Board's position must be approved by the majority of the Board members prior to release. Approval will be at a public meeting of the Board or by phone through the Board secretary.

DATE ADOPTED: July 14, 1987

DATE REVISED: August 21, 1995