

**Stratford Public Schools  
Community Relations**

**1311.1 (a)**

## **Political Campaigns**

### **Distribution of Campaign Material**

During regular school hours, and during after-school activities sponsored by the schools, political materials may not be distributed in the school or on the school grounds. This instruction is intended to include, but is not limited to, the following events:

1. Annual Open Houses
2. Parent Conferences
3. Back-to-school nights
4. Orientation Programs
5. Student band, chorus, or drama programs
6. Sporting events

If the PTA's or other organizations sponsor political forums, and use a school for such an event, the distribution of political material during that event is acceptable.

### **Political Candidates Visiting the Schools**

A political candidate may visit the schools during regular school hours, or after student dismissal under certain conditions. The candidate will be required to:

1. Call the school Principal for an appointment.
2. Not wear any political attire while visiting the school.
3. Refrain from introductions to any classes while touring the facility.

It is understood that the purpose of the visit is to learn about the school system, not to campaign in any way.

### **Social Studies Classes**

Political candidates may be invited to address students as part of the study of the political process and elections. Teachers will see that all candidates for the particular office that is under study are given the opportunity to address the students for equal times.

Teachers may display campaign material when it is part of the curriculum, as long as fairness and equity are observed.

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**1311.1 (b)**

**Political Campaigns (continued)**

**Candidates Who Are Sitting Members of the Board of Education**

It is expected that sitting Board of Education members who are running for any public office will not use privileged information to further their political goals.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

7-421 Political activities of classified municipal employees.

7-421 b Limitation on restriction of political rights of municipal.

10-156e Employees of Boards of Education permitted to serve as elected officials; exception.