

# Stratford Public Schools Community Relations

1312(a)

## Public Complaints

The Board recognizes that situations may arise in the operation of the schools which are of concern to parents or to the public. Such concerns are best dealt with through communication with appropriate staff members such as the faculty, the principals, the central office, and the Board.

The following guidelines are suggested as the proper procedure to be followed by persons with questions or complaints:

1. Matters concerning individual students should first be addressed to the teachers.
2. Unsettled matters from (1) above or problems and questions concerning individual schools should be directed to the Principal of the school.
3. Unsettled matters from (2) above or problems and questions concerning the school system as a whole should be directed to the Superintendent.
4. If the matter cannot be settled satisfactorily by the Superintendent, it should be brought to the Board of Education. Questions and comments submitted to the Chairperson of the Board in letter form will be brought to the attention of the entire Board.
5. The Board, at its next regular meeting, or at a special meeting, will then consider the grievance of the complainant and dispose of the matter according to its best judgment.
6. Whenever a complaint is made directly to the Board as a whole or to a Board member as an individual, it will be referred to the school administration for study and possible solutions. The individual employee involved will be advised of the nature of the complaint and given every opportunity for explanation, comment, and presentation of the facts as he/she seems them.

(cf. 1220 – Citizens’ Advisory Committees)  
(cf. 5145.2 – Freedom of Speech/Expression)  
(cf. 6144 – Controversial Issues)  
(cf. 6161 – Equipment, Books, Materials: Provision/Selection)

Policy adopted by the Stratford Board of Education, June 26, 2006

## Stratford Public Schools Community Relations

1312 (b)

### Public Complaints (continued)

Legal Reference: *Keyishian v. Board of Regents* 385 U.S. 589, 603 (1967)

*President's Council, District 25 v. Community School Board No. 25* 457 F.2d 289 (1972), cert. denied 409 U.S. 998 (1976)

*Minarcini v. Strongsville City School District*, 541 F. 2d 577 (6<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1976).

*Board of Education, Island Trees Union Free School District No. 26 v. Pico*, 457 U.S. 853 (1982)

Academic Freedom Policy (adopted by Connecticut State Board of Education, 9/9/81).

Connecticut General Statutes

10-238 Petition for hearing by Board of Education.