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# STRATFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

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**POLICY TITLE: NEWS MEDIA RELATIONSHIPS**

**POLICY NUMBER: 1112**

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## **News Media Relationships**

Because schools are public institutions serving the educational needs of the community, it is important that information be disseminated concerning programs, activities, and significant school events. To ensure that this publicity be given wide coverage and coordinated with a common effort and purpose, the following procedures shall be followed with news media:

1. The Board of Education Chairperson shall be the official spokesman for the Board. The Superintendent of Schools may report on actions of the Boards.
2. News releases of a system-wide nature, or which pertain to established school system policy, are the responsibility of the Superintendent and will be issued through his/her office.
3. News releases which are of concern to only one school, or to an organization of one school, are the responsibility of Principals. If the presence of any media personnel causes disruption to the educational process, access may be denied by the Principal.

Board meetings to which the public has access may be photographed, broadcast, or recorded for broadcast by any newspaper, radio broadcasting company, or television broadcasting company. If, in the judgment of the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the presence at a Board meeting of photographer, broadcaster, or news journalist causes such disruption that orderly conduct of the public business at such meeting becomes unfeasible, access by these individuals may be limited to the extent necessary to remove disruption.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

I-226 Recording, broadcasting, or photographing meetings.