# Community Relations

## Public Complaints

It is the policy of the Board of Education to hear all complaints in a manner that conforms with procedures prescribed by the Connecticut General Statutes.

### General Concerns

Concerns about school policy, practices, or procedures may be brought to the Board during the "Hearing of Citizens" portion of all regular meetings. It is expected that complaints will be brought to the Board only after attempts to resolve concerns have been made unsuccessfully at the building level and through the Superintendent.

### Complaint to Board Member

If a complaint is made to individual Board members, the person making the complaint shall be referred to the proper administrator and informed that the matter may be referred to the Superintendent if the complainant does not agree with the initial decision.

### Formal Complaint

A formal complaint may be submitted to the Board in writing detailing the problem and the steps taken to resolve it through administrative channels.

When the Board is asked to consider a complaint concerning policy, practices, or procedures, the Board will decide either to hold a special meeting or include the item on an upcoming agenda, and will notify the complainant(s) and other interested parties of the date and time of the review.

The Board will consider complaints about personnel but are constrained by Statutes from doing so in a public meeting and without protecting the rights of the individual concerned.

When the Board is asked to consider a complaint concerning personnel, the Board will review the matter with the Superintendent who will, in turn, report to the Board on any action that may result.

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

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)

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Legal Reference: (continued)

*Minarcini v. Strongsville City School District*, 541 F. 2d 577 (6th 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.

Policy adopted: September 19, 2019

MONTVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Montville, Connecticut