

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

The Ledyard Board of Education recognizes the right of its employees, as citizens, to engage in political activity outside the work place and when not actively carrying out a duty for which they are compensated by the Board.

Prohibited activities include, but are not limited to, the posting of political circulars or petitions, collection or solicitation of campaign funds, solicitations for campaign workers, the use of students in writing or addressing campaign materials, and the distribution of campaign materials to students on District property or during school time in any manner which would indicate that a school employee is using a position in the school to further personal partisan views on candidates for public office or questions of public property.

When acting pursuant to their official duties, teachers and other District employees will not attempt to influence students concerning political party affiliations and will not praise or denigrate any particular political party.

Nothing in this policy will be interpreted as prohibiting teachers from conducting appropriate activities that encourage students to become involved in the political processes of the party of the students' choice or as independents; nor does it prohibit the use of political figures as resource persons in the classrooms in support of the curriculum.

Any District employee who leaves her/his position to accept a full-time elective municipal office shall be granted a personal leave of absence without pay from the District for not more than two consecutive terms of such office or for a period of four years, whichever is shorter. Upon reapplication for her/his original position at the expiration of such term or terms of office, such person shall be reinstated in her/his most recent District position or a similar position with equivalent pay or to a vacancy in any other position such person is qualified to fill. If no such positions are available, such person's name shall be placed on all reemployment lists for positions for which she/he is eligible.

Any District employee running for a full-time elective municipal office shall give notice in writing to the Superintendent that she/he is a candidate for a full-time elective municipal office within thirty days after nomination for that office.

References: Connecticut General Statutes

7-421. Political activities of classified municipal employees. Candidacy of municipal employees for elective office. Leaves of absence. Service on governmental bodies of the town in which the employee resides.

7-421b. Limitation on restrictions of political rights of municipal employees.

10-156e. Employees of boards of education permitted to serve as elected officials; exception.

Policy adopted: November 2, 1994
Revised: November 28, 2012

LEDYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Ledyard, Connecticut