

POLICY

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Related Entries: KC, KC-RA

Responsible Office: OFFICE OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

PROGRAMS, MEETINGS, AND EVENTS WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS AND POLITICAL CANDIDATES

A. PURPOSE

To provide guidance regarding the participation of elected officials and political candidates at public school facilities in Anne Arundel County.

B. ISSUE

Anne Arundel County Public Schools recognizes the importance of community civic engagement and the use of public school facilities for community purposes.

C. POSITION

1. Definitions:

- a. ***Elected Official*** – an individual who is elected by the public to a public office.
- b. ***Political Candidate*** – an individual who files a certificate of candidacy for a public or party office.
- c. ***Independent Use of School Facilities*** – the use of public school facilities at times that shall not interfere with regular school hours and/or other school activities, programs, meetings, and events.

2. The participation of elected officials and political candidates before general audiences at public school facilities for community purposes shall comply with the following provisions:

- a. **School-Sponsored Programs, Meetings, and Events**
 - i. Elected officials and political candidates of partisan political organizations meeting the requirements set forth under § 7-108(c) of the Education Article may participate in school-sponsored programs, meetings, and events.
 - ii. Elected officials may be invited to speak to students or visit a school.

- iii. If invited, political candidates meeting the requirements set forth above shall be given the opportunity to participate in the same programs, meetings, and events. The refusal of one or more or political candidates to participate does not preclude continuation of the programs, meetings, or events.
- iv. Invitations to elected officials and political candidates, and arrangements for their appearance at any school programs, meetings or events shall be approved in advance by the principal.

b. **Independent Use of School Facilities**

The independent use of public school facilities by elected officials, partisan political organizations, or political candidates of a partisan political organization for programs, meetings and events that are not school-sponsored shall be conducted in a manner pursuant to Policy/Regulation KC/KC-RA – Community Use of Facilities.

D. IMPLEMENTATION

The Superintendent is authorized to develop regulations to implement this policy.

Policy History: Adopted on 05/03/2017

Note Previous Policy History: Replaces policy 610.02, adopted 03/01/72 and revised 05/03/2017