

## Bylaws of the Board

### Commitment to Democratic Principles in Relation to Community, Staff, Students

#### Board-Staff Communications

The Shelton Board of Education recognizes the need to maintain open communication between itself and the staff. Essentially, communications with staff deal with three general areas – administration, policy and philosophy. While the Board recognizes the necessity for board-staff communications, it also recognizes that administrative matters must be dealt with through its chief administrator. Hence, the basic line of communication for administrative matters shall be through the Superintendent.

1. Staff Communications to the Board

All formal reports to the Board or any Board committee from administrators, supervisors, teachers or other staff members shall be submitted through the Superintendent.

Staff members are also reminded that Board meetings are public meetings. As such, they provide an excellent opportunity to observe and participate first hand in the Board's deliberations on problems of staff concern.

2. Board Communication to Staff

All official communications, policies and directives of staff interest and concern will be communicated to staff members through the Superintendent, and the Superintendent will employ all such media as are appropriate to keep staff fully informed of the Board's problems, concerns and actions. (cf. 9020 – Public Statements)

3. Visits to Schools

Individual Board members interested in visiting schools or classrooms will make arrangements for visitations through the administrators of the various schools. Such visits shall be regarded as informal expressions of interest in school affairs and not as "inspections" or visits for supervisory or administrative purposes. Official visits by Board members will be conducted only under Board authorization and with the full knowledge of staff, including the Superintendent, building administrators and other supervisors.

(cf. 2220 – Representative and Deliberative Groups re staff involvement in decision making)

(cf. 5145 – Civil and Legal Rights & Responsibilities)

(cf. 9133 – Special/Advisory Committee re staff advisory committee and student advisory committee)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
10-220 Duties of boards of education