



*Center Area
School District*

SECTION: PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES

TITLE: FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN
NONINSTRUCTIONAL
SETTINGS

ADOPTED: NOVEMBER 16, 2005

REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Guidelines</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">420. FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN NONINSTRUCTIONAL SETTINGS</p> <p>The Board acknowledges the right of its professional employees as citizens in a democratic society, to speak out on issues of public concern. When those issues are related to the school system and its programs, however, the employee's freedom of expression must be balanced against the interests of this district.</p> <p>The following guidelines are adopted by the Board to help clarify and therefore avoid situations in which the employee's expression could conflict with the district's interests. In situations in which the teacher is not engaged in the performance of professional duties, s/he should:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">not direct his/her expression toward any individual(s) with whom s/he would normally be in contact in the performance of duties, in order to avoid the disruption of cooperative staff relationships;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">refrain from expressions that would interfere with the maintenance of discipline by school officials;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">refrain from making public expressions which s/he knows to be false or made without regard for truth or accuracy; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">not make threats against co-workers, supervisors or district officials.</p> <p>Violations of these guidelines may result in disciplinary action, including dismissal.</p>
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