

# Hood River County School District

Code: **GBG**  
Adopted: 10/13/93  
Readopted: 4/08/15  
Orig. Code(s): 6119; 6145

## **Staff Participation in Political Activities**

The civil rights of district officials and district employees to participate fully in affairs of public interest on a local, county, state, and national basis, shall be on the same basis as any citizen in a comparable position and within the law.

District officials, including Board members and all employees of the district, must understand that their personal viewpoint on all controversial issues should not be interpreted as the official posture of the district.

The teacher's role in class is that of a moderator - explaining and defending the rights, privileges, and limitations of all sides, as exemplified in American democracy. Teachers will not force or make mandatory on students their position on political issues or candidates.

All employees of districts are privileged, within the limitations set forth in the statutes of the state of Oregon and of the Federal Government, to choose either by vote, discussion or the persuasion of others; provided, however, that said discussion and persuasion not be carried on during the performance of school duties, except open discussions in such classrooms that center on a consideration of all candidates for a particular public office and both sides of a particular political or civic issue. On all controversial issues, one must designate that the view represents a personal stand and is not to be interpreted as the official point of view of the district.

District employees may exercise their right to participate fully in affairs of public interest on a local, county, state and national level on the same basis as any citizen in a comparable position in public or private employment and within the law.

There shall be no solicitation of money, influence or services of any school employee during working hours while on the job, to aid in the promotion of any person to public or political office.

No bulletin, circular or other publication of any character whose purpose or effect is to disrupt the educational process shall be distributed or shown to school pupils on school premises. Distribution of material that results in disruption will thereafter be banned.

No employee will use district facilities, equipment or supplies in connection with his/her campaigning, nor will he/she use any time during the working day for campaign purposes.

END OF POLICY

---

**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS Chapter 244](#)  
[ORS 260.432](#)

OR. CONST., art. XV, § 8.

**Cross Reference(s):**

INB - Studying Controversial Issues