

**News Media Relationships**

Because schools are public institutions serving the educational needs of the community, it is important that information be disseminated concerning programs, activities and significant school events. To ensure that this publicity be given wide coverage and coordinated with a common effort and purpose, the following procedures shall be followed with news media:

1. The Board chairperson shall be the official spokesman for the Board. The Superintendent may report on actions of the Board.
2. News releases that pertain to established school system policy, are the responsibility of the Superintendent and will be issued through his/her office.
3. News releases that are of concern to the school, or to an organization of the school, are the responsibility of the principal (hereafter "the Principal").

Board meetings to which the public has access may be photographed, broadcast, or recorded for broadcast by any newspaper, radio broadcasting company, or television broadcasting company, subject to the following guidelines:

1. News media personnel who intend to photograph, broadcast or record for broadcast the proceedings of any public meeting of the Board shall provide appropriate identification to the Superintendent, if requested by the Superintendent, prior to said meeting of the Board.
2. Only news media personnel employed by a newspaper, radio or television broadcasting company, or personnel of a recognized student news medium assigned to cover the proceedings of a Board public meeting shall be permitted to photograph, broadcast or record for broadcast, such proceedings.
3. Any photographer, broadcaster or news journalist authorized photograph, broadcast or record for broadcast, proceedings at a public meeting of the Board, and any personnel associated with said photographer, broadcaster or news journalist, shall photograph, broadcast or record for broadcast proceedings of said meeting as inconspicuously as possible and in such a manner to not disturb proceedings.
4. If, in the judgment of the chairperson of the Board or designee, the presence at a Board meeting of any photographer, broadcaster or news journalist causes such disruption that orderly conduct of the public business at such meeting becomes unfeasible, access by these individuals may be limited to the extent necessary to end the disruption.

**Legal Reference:** Connecticut General Statutes  
1-226 Recording, broadcasting, or photographing meetings.