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## **Community Involvement in Decision Making**

The School Committee endorses the concept that community participation in the affairs of the schools is essential if the school system and the community are to maintain mutual confidence and respect and work together to improve the quality of education for students. It therefore intends to exert every effort to identify the desires of the community and to be responsive, through its actions, to those desires.

All citizens will be encouraged to express ideas, concerns, and judgments about the schools to the school administration, School Council, any appointed advisory boards, and the School Committee.

On occasion, residents who are specially qualified because of interest, training, experience, or personal characteristics will be encouraged to become involved in specific school district projects. From time to time, these people may be invited by the School Committee to act as advisors, either individually or in groups.

The School Committee and the staff will give substantial weight to the advice they receive from individuals and community groups interested in the schools, particularly from those individuals and groups they have invited to advise them regarding specific problems, but will use their best judgment in arriving at decisions.

APPROVED: December 11, 2006

AMENDED: April 9, 2018

CROSS REF.: BDF, Advisory Committees to the School Committee