



BOARD POLICY

No. 317

MENDOCINO - LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

POLITICAL ACTIVITY ON CAMPUS

No District funds, services, supplies or equipment, including District mailboxes and bulletin boards, shall be used for the purpose of urging the support or defeat of any ballot measure or candidate, including, but not limited to, any candidate for election to the governing board of the district. This policy does not pertain to elections for campus constituent groups.

Employees are prohibited from engaging in political activity during working hours. However, nothing in this policy shall be construed to prohibit an employee from urging the support or defeat of a ballot measure or candidate during nonworking time. "Nonworking time" means time outside an employee's working hours, whether before or after the workday or during the employee's lunch period or other scheduled work breaks during the day.

Employees are not prohibited from wearing buttons or imprinted apparel supporting a particular candidate or position, as long as it does not disturb classrooms or the orderly conduct of business. Employees may engage in political discussions, campaigning or soliciting one-on-one during non-working hours away from any work area where someone might be disturbed by the conversation.

Political forums are acceptable if under the control of the District and if made available to all sides on an equitable basis. Public resources may be used for such informational efforts.

No one who holds any office or position of employment or who is seeking election or appointment to a local agency shall use his or her position, office, authority, or influence to urge or discourage any political action of a District employee.

The Board may by resolution express the Board's position on ballot measures. Public resources may be used only for informational efforts regarding ballot measures.

Reference: Education Code 7050-7058, Government Code 3543.1 (b) and 8314

Also see Policy 509 Freedom of Speech, Assembly, and Expression