

A-3 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION-MAKING

The Board of School Trustees endorses the concept that community participation in the affairs of schools is essential if the school district and the community are to maintain mutual confidence and respect and work together to improve the quality of education for all students.

The Board believes the schools belong to the people for whom they are created to serve. It therefore intends that all reasonable efforts should be exerted to identify the desires of the community and to be responsive, through its actions, to those desires. The Board members themselves will remain mindful that they are elected to represent the people of the district.

All citizens of the district will be encouraged to express ideas, concerns, and judgments about the schools through such means as (a) written suggestions or proposals; (b) presentations at hearings; (c) responses to surveys made through interviews, written instruments, or other means; (d) comments at meetings of the Board; and (e) service on citizens' advisory committees.

The National School Boards Association has stated:

"School boards should enlist citizen groups to assist and counsel them, making certain that three principles are followed:

1. citizen groups should be broadly representative;
2. recommendations should be based on research and facts;
and
3. recommendations should be submitted to school boards who alone have the authority and responsibility to act upon them."

SOURCE: Plainfield Community School Corporation Plainfield, IN
ADOPTED: Prior to 08/01/72
REVISED: 08/01/72, 06/12/79, 8/24/89