AP 7370   Political Activity

Reference:
Education Code Sections 7054 and 7056; Government Code Section 8314

Employees shall not use District funds, services, supplies, or equipment to urge the passage or defeat of any ballot measure or candidate, including, but not limited to, any candidate for election to the Governing Board.

District resources may be used to provide information to the public about the possible effects of a bond issue or other ballot measure if both the following conditions are met:

- The informational activities are otherwise authorized by the Constitution or laws of the State of California; and

- The information provided constitutes a fair and impartial presentation of relevant facts to aid the electorate in reaching an informed judgment regarding the bond issue or ballot measure.

Any administrator or board member may appear before a citizens' group that requests the appearance to discuss the reasons why the Board called an election to submit to the voters a proposition for the issuance of bonds, and to respond to inquiries from the citizens' group.

During working hours, an officer or employee of the District may not solicit or receive political funds or contributions to promote the support or defeat of a ballot measure that would affect the rate of pay, hours of work, retirement, civil service, or other working conditions of officers or employees of the district. Entry into buildings and grounds of the District for such purposes is prohibited during working hours.

This policy prohibits political activity during an employee's working hours only, and shall not 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 work day or during the employee's lunch period or other breaks during the day.

No restriction shall be placed on the political activities of any District employee except as provided in this policy.