

() Required
(X) Local
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COMMUNITY RELATIONS GOALS

The Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) for the Albany-Schoharie-Schenectady-Saratoga Counties (Capital Region) strives to conduct BOCES affairs by way of a continuing, open dialogue between the component school districts and the BOCES programs. Given residents' and component districts' high level of interest in the education of children, the Board wishes to maintain its high level of sensitivity to the needs and desires of the community and to act expeditiously to meet changing needs and conditions.

To this end, the Board will work with staff and component Boards of Education to gain perspective directions and evaluations on programs and services offered by this BOCES:

1. To provide a variety of means whereby residents and component districts may have the opportunity to contribute their best thinking to the orderly planning of education for students in the BOCES;
2. To keep the surrounding communities accurately informed about BOCES programs and services;
3. To understand community attitudes and aspirations for the programs;
4. To encourage contributions from parents so that BOCES personnel and parents cooperate to advance the educational welfare of the students;
5. To handle all complaints from the public by the administrative officer in charge of the unit of the BOCES organization closest to the complainant. However, such complaints may be brought to the District Superintendent and/or the Board if the problem cannot be solved at that level or if circumstances warrant;
6. To promote a spirit of cooperation among the Board, the programs, and the community;
7. To develop and maintain the confidence of the surrounding communities in the Board and the BOCES staff;
8. To expand public understanding of every aspect of the BOCES system, and stimulate public interest in the programs;
9. To facilitate dissemination of information to the surrounding communities concerning issues and activities in the BOCES;
10. To ascertain the community's and component districts' opinions and desires with respect to the operations of the BOCES, and to incorporate that knowledge into its actions;
11. To develop arrangements among civic and community organizations for sharing of resources, especially in the creation of programs designed to benefit students; and
12. To develop and maintain an effective means of communication with component districts.

Notwithstanding the above, the final decisions in these areas will rest with the Board.

Adopted: December 15, 2008

Ratified: December 15, 2008