

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING

P1507

The School Committee endorses the concept that community participation in the affairs of the schools is essential if the school department and the community are to maintain mutual confidence and respect and work together to improve the quality of education for students. The School Committee will 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, staff, any appointed advisory boards and the School Committee.

Residents who are specially qualified because of interest, training, experience, or personal characteristics will be encouraged to assume an active role in school affairs. 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.

The School Committee reaffirms the right of its citizenry to make recommendations to the School Committee regarding improving the schools.

Westford Public Schools Policy References:

P7109 – New Member Orientation

Policy Adopted: April 9, 2001

Policy Reviewed:

Policy Revised:

WESTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Westford, Massachusetts 01886