

The employee's right of citizenship, involving registering, discussing political issues, voting, campaigning for candidates or issues, running for or serving in public office, and participating on a committee or board that seeks to serve the welfare of the community, will not be infringed upon due to employment by the school system.

These political activities must not:

1. take place during school time;
2. involve school monies or materials; or
3. make use of an official school position to encourage or to coerce students or other employees of the system to support in any way a political party, candidate, or issue.

This policy should not be construed as prohibiting the impartial study and discussion of political or other controversial issues in the classroom setting.

As specified in policy 2220, Official School Spokesperson, the chairperson of the board or designee and the superintendent or designee are the official spokespersons for the school system. Employees, when exercising their rights as citizens, should take steps to ensure that their personal political opinions are not erroneously attributed to the school board or the school system.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-47(18)

Cross References: Official School Spokesperson (policy 2220)

Adopted: August 8, 2016

Revised: December 12, 2016