

The Columbia County Board of Education believes that the public schools exist for the purpose of providing the best education possible for citizens of the community. In order to understand the education opportunities and in order to provide informal input for Board of Education consideration, the community must be cognizant of the system's educational programs, procedures and policies.

For this purpose, the Board of Education establishes the aim to continuously develop methods to encourage two-way communication between the schools and the community. Parents and all citizens have a vested interest in both the education of their children and the expenditure of their tax dollars. Their advice and counsel, therefore, will be sought through public hearings when required and through the establishment of community advisory committees. There will be a systematic and continuing effort to discover what citizens think and what they want to know; to interpret the school's programs, problems and accomplishments; to correct misinformation and to supply all desired information. There will be a systematic and continuing effort to establish an active partnership between the school and the community, with professional educators and lay people working together toward improving the total education program.

Fostering good public relations is everyone's responsibility-board members, Superintendent's staff, administrators, teachers, auxiliary staff, maintenance workers, food service workers, and transportation workers. The Columbia County Board of Education has adopted a policy which states that by virtue of the employment, each staff member assumes the responsibility for fostering good public relations in the school community.

PROCEDURE: YES (NEW 1/13/03)

ADOPTED: 8/11/87

REVISED: 10/1/97