Section PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYES

Title FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN NON-

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INSTRUCTIONAL SETTINGS

LINE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Date Adopted September 26, 1979

Guide Reference 420. FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN NON-INSTRUCTIONAL SETTINGS 2 1. Purpose The Board acknowledges the right of its professional employes as citizens in a democratic society, to speak out on issues of public concern. When those issues are related to the school system and its programs, however, the employe's freedom of expression must be balanced against the interests of this district. The following guidelines are adopted by the Board 2. Guidelines to help clarify and therefore avoid situations in which the employe's expression could conflict with the district's interests. In situations in which the teacher is not engaged in the performance of professional duties, the teacher should state clearly that his/her expression represents personal views and not necessarily those of the school district: - not direct his/her expression toward any individual with whom s/he would normally be in contact in the performance of duties, in order to avoid the disruption of cooperative staff relationships; - refrain from expressions that would interfere with the maintenance of discipline by school officials; - refrain from making public expressions which s/he knows to be false or made without regard for truth or accuracy. 32 Violations of these guidelines may result in discip-33 linary actions, including dismissal. 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41

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