TABLE OF CONTENTS

PORT ALLEGANY SCHOOL DISTRICT

900 COMMUNITY

- 901 Public Relations Objectives
- 902 Publications Program
- 903 Public Participation In Board Meetings
- 904 Public Attendance At School Events
- 905 Citizen Advisory Committees
- 906 Public Complaints
- 907 School Visitors
- 907.1 Smoking
- 908 Relations With Parents
- 908.1 Title I Parent Involvement
- 909 Municipal Government Relations
- 910 Community Relations
- 911 News Media Relations
- 912 Relations With Educational Institutions
- 913 Relations With Special Interest Groups
- 914 Relations With Intermediate Unit

TITLE: PUBLIC RELATIONS OBJECTIVES

ADOPTED: June 16, 1998

	901. PUBLIC RELATIONS OBJECTIVES
1.Purpose	The purpose of the school-community relations program is to establish and maintain a program that informs the public of and involves them in the goals and services of the district's public schools.
2.Responsibility	Toward this end, the Board shall provide parents or guardians and other district residents opportunities for information and orientation regarding local school procedures, and will utilize, insofar as practical, all appropriate means and media to achieve the following objectives:
	to explain the programs, achievements and needs of the schools;
	to determine which particular areas of the school program, policies, or operations need further clarification or explanation;
	to keep staff members fully informed of district policies and procedures;
	to operate, insofar as required, in public session, as speedily and efficiently as circumstances permit, and with public participation;
	to recognize pupils as "ambassadors" from the school system to the community, whose attitudes will affect community opinion of the schools; and
	to inform teaching staff personnel that community opinion depends upon the daily life of the school, and that they should seek the following objectives as opportunity permits in their respective fields of services:
	acquaint citizens with the work of the schools
	give courteous and thoughtful consideration to all inquiries and suggestions and carefully investigate all complaints
	make parents feel welcome in the school office and in the classroom

901. PUBLIC RELATIONS OBJECTIVES - Pg. 2

	cooperate with the Parent-Teacher and other community groups
	maintain numil relations so as to onlist the accompanyion of the home
	maintain pupil relations so as to enlist the cooperation of the home
	observe interstaff relations conducive to high morale that merits the respect of pupils
	and citizens.
School Code	
701.1, 702,	
706, 775,	
3603	

SECTION: COMMUNITY TITLE: PUBLICATIONS PROGRAM ADOPTED: June 16, 1998 REVISED:

	902. PUBLICATIONS PROGRAM
1.Purpose	The Board believes that all reasonable means should be employed to keep the public informed on matters of importance regarding district policies, finances, programs, personnel and operations.
2.Authority	The Board will determine which of its official actions have such community impact and interest to warrant special release; and it will arrange for release to the media information on such matters of importance.
3.Responsibility	The Board shall be responsible for determining policies and for selecting a Superintendent to administer its policies. The policies, published as adopted by the Board, shall be the basis for the administration of the school and shall serve as a guide to the Directors, employes, and the Superintendent. The Board also shall approve the educational program, appointments, and expenditures.
	The Board recognizes the unique position of its members. On the one hand, they desire to be open and candid with members of the community who have concerns about the school system; on the other hand, they recognize that they cannot speak for the Board unless designated by the Board to do so. With this principle in mind, individual Board members, when approached by members of the community about school matters, will generally refer concerns and questions to their chief spokesperson, the Superintendent, or to a Board member who has been designated by the Board to speak for it. The function of individual Board members is to make certain that all concerned persons are treated with respect and that they are referred to the appropriate school personnel who are most able to provide information about the matter and bring about a satisfactory conclusion.

TITLE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATIOIN BOARD MEETINGS

ADOPTED: June 16, 1998

	903. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BOARD MEETINGS
1.Purpose 65 P.S. 271 et seq	The Board recognizes the value to school governance of public comment on educational issues and the importance of involving members of the public in Board meetings.
2.Authority	The Board will provide opportunity for citizens to participate in regular and special Board meetings in the following manner. Each citizen addressing the Board is required to state his/her name.
	A citizen who wishes to bring a matter before the Board will be given an opportunity to do so by recognition of the President during the Comments section of the agenda.
	The President has the prerogative to determine the length of time a visitor may speak.
	If there is not sufficient time for residents and taxpayers to comment, the Board may defer the comment period to the next regular or special meeting occurring in advance of the next regular meeting.
	The President has the prerogative to rule out of order scandalous, impertinent and redundant comment or any comment the discernible purpose of which is to disrupt or prevent the conduct of the business of the meeting.
PA Statute 65 P.S. 271 et seq	
Board Policy No. 006	
PA Statute 65 P.S. 271 et seq Board Policy	 Board meetings in the following manner. Each citizen addressing the Board is required to state his/her name. A citizen who wishes to bring a matter before the Board will be given an opportut to do so by recognition of the President during the Comments section of the agent. The President has the prerogative to determine the length of time a visitor may speak. If there is not sufficient time for residents and taxpayers to comment, the Board redefer the comment period to the next regular or special meeting occurring in adva of the next regular meeting. The President has the prerogative to rule out of order scandalous, impertinent and redundant comment or any comment the discernible purpose of which is to disrupt.

TITLE: PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

ADOPTED: June 16, 1998

	904. PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS
1.Purpose	The Board welcomes the public at athletic and other events held by the school district, but the Board also acknowledges its duty to maintain order and preserve the facilities of the district during such events.
2.Authority SC 775	The Board has the authority to bar the attendance of any person at a school event whose conduct may con stitute a disruption. The Board also prohibits alcoholic beverages, gambling, and the use of drugs on school premises.
3.Regulations SC 511	The Board establishes the following regulations with respect to the conduct of school events:
	1. With respect to smoking, there will be no smoking any public function held in a school building.
	2. A schedule of fees for all school events shall be prepared by the Superintendent and adopted by the Board.
	3. Senior citizens, residents of the district 65 years of age or older, shall be admitted without charge to all school events.
School Code 511, 775	

TITLE: CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES

ADOPTED: June 16, 1998

1.PurposeCitizen advisory committees are sometimes useful in keeping the Board and administration informed with regard to community opinion and in representing the community in the study of specific school problems.2.RegulationsThe Board shall seek the advice of the Superintendent before establishing or dissolving any advisory committee. All appointments of citizens to advisory committees for the Board shall be made by the Board. All appointments of staff members to citizens advisory committees for the Board shall be made by the Superintendent with the approval of the Board.Specific topics for study or well-defined areas of activity shall be assigned in writing to each committee immediately following its appointment. Upon completing its assignment, each committee either shall be given new problems or shall be dissolved promptly, but shall not be allowed to continue for prolonged periods without a definite assignment. Each committee shall be instructed as to the length of time each member is being asked to serve, the approximate dates on which the Board wishes it to submit reports, and the approximate dates on which the Board wishes it to submit reports, and the approximate date on which the Board wishes it to submit reports, and the Board, to individual Board members, to the Board member assigned to provide liaison, to the secretary of the Board, and to the Superintendent, the committee assistant, and the remainder of the professional staff. The Board shall have sole power to dissolve any of its advisory committees and shall reserve the right to exercise this power at any time during the life of any committee.		905. CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEES
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	2.Regulations	dissolving any advisory committee. All appointments of citizens to advisory committees for the Board shall be made by the Board. All appointments of staff members to citizens advisory committees for the Board shall be made by the Superintendent with the approval of the Board. Specific topics for study or well-defined areas of activity shall be assigned in writing to each committee immediately following its appointment. Upon completing its assignment, each committee either shall be given new problems or shall be dissolved promptly, but shall not be allowed to continue for prolonged periods without a definite assignment. Each committee shall be instructed as to the length of time each member is being asked to serve, the service the Board wishes it to render, the resources the Board intends to provide, the approximate dates on which the Board wishes it to submit reports, and the approximate date on which the Board wishes to dissolve the committee. Furthermore, the committee shall be instructed as to the relationship it has to the Board, to individual Board members, to the Board member assigned to provide liaison, to the secretary of the Board, and to the Superintendent, the committee assistant, and the remainder of the professional staff. The Board shall have sole power to dissolve any of its advisory committees and shall

SECTION: COMMUNITY TITLE: PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ADOPTED: June 16, 1998 REVISED:

	
	906. PUBLIC COMPLAINTS
1.Purpose	Any resident or community group shall have the right to present a request, suggestion or complaint concerning district personnel, the program, or the operations of the district. At the same time, the Board has a duty to protect its staff from unnecessary harassment. It is the intent of this policy to provide a fair and impartial manner for seeking appropriate remedies.
2.Authority	Any misunderstandings between the public and the school district shall be resolved by direct discussions of an informal type among the interested parties. It is only when such informal meetings fail to resolve the differences that more formal procedures will be employed.
3.Delegation of Responsibility	Any requests, suggestions or complaints reaching Board members and the Board shall be referred to the Superintendent for consideration and action. In the event that further action is warranted, based on the initial investigation, such action shall be in accordance with the following procedures.
	A. Matters Regarding A Teaching Staff Member
	<u>First Level</u> a matter specifically directed toward a teaching staff member shall be addressed, initially, to the concerned staff member who shall discuss it with the complainant and make every effort to provide a reasoned explanation or take appropriate action within his/her authority.
	As appropriate, the staff member shall report the matter, and whatever action may have been taken, to the building principal.
	<u>Second Level</u> If the matter cannot be satisfactorily resolved at the first level, it shall be discussed by the complainant with the building principal.
	<u>Third Level</u> If a satisfactory solution is not achieved by discussion with the building principal, the principal shall attempt to schedule a conference with the Superintendent. The principal will furnish to the Superintendent a report which will include:

	the specific nature of the complaint and a brief statement of the facts giving rise to it.
	the respect in which it is alleged that the complainant (or child of the complainant) has been affected adversely.
	the action which the complainant wishes taken and the reasons why it is felt that such action be taken.
	<u>Fourth Level</u> Should the matter still not be resolved by the Superintendent, or if it is beyond the Superintendent's authority and requires Board action, the Superintendent shall furnish the Board with a complete report.
	The Board, after reviewing all material relating to the case, shall provide the complainant with its written decision.
	The complainant shall be advised, in writing, of the Board's decision, no more than ten (10) days following the hearing.
	B. Matters Regarding An Administrative Staff Member
	In the case of a complaint directed toward an administrative staff member, the general procedure specified in Part A, shall be followed. The complaint shall be discussed, initially, with the person toward whom it is directed and if a satisfactory resolution is not achieved at this level, the matter shall be brought, as required, to higher levels in accordance with the organization chart of the school district, terminating with the School Board.
	C. Matters Regarding A Noninstructional Staff Member
	In the case of a complaint directed toward a noninstructional staff member, the complaint is to be directed, initially, toward the person's superior, and the matter then brought, as required, to higher levels in accordance with the organization chart of the school district in the manner prescribed in Part A.
	D. Matters Regarding a Program, Operation or Instructional Materials
	A request, suggestion, or complaint, relating to a matter of district or school policy, procedure, program, operation or instructional materials, should be addressed, initially, to the building principal or the head of the nonprofessional department who is most directly concerned; and then brought, in turn, to higher levels of authority in the manner prescribed in Part A.
Pol. 113	E. Matters Regarding Pupil Progress and Well-Being

906. PUBLIC COMPLAINTS - Pg. 3

In the case of a complaint directed toward this area, the general procedures specified in Part A shall be followed.

PORT ALLEGANY SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: SCHOOL VISITORS

ADOPTED: June 16, 1998

REVISED: October 12, 2009

	907. SCHOOL VISITORS
1.Purpose	The Board welcomes and encourages visits to school by parents, other adult residents of the community and interested educators. To insure order in the schools, it is necessary to establish guidelines governing school visits.
2.Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent or building principal has the authority to prohibit the entry of any person to a school of this district in accordance with the following procedures:
	1. Upon arrival at the school, visitors must register at the office where they will receive instructions.
	2. Staff members shall be expected to require that a visitor has duly registered at the school office and received authorization to be present for the purpose of conducting business.
	3. No visitor may confer with a student in school without the approval of the principal.
	4. Should an emergency require that a student be called to the school office to meet a visitor, the principal shall be present during the meeting.

SECTION: COMMUNITY TITLE: SMOKING ADOPTED: June 16, 1998 REVISED:

	907.1. SMOKING
1.Purpose	The Port Allegany School District health education program is predicated upon developing a sound education and productive living standards. The curriculum will include instruction in the composition, effects, and use of drugs, including alcohol and tobacco.
2.Authority	To carry out this policy, to promote further health and safety of all students and staff, and to promote the cleanliness of all facilities, the Board bans the use of all tobacco products in all school buildings and grounds in the district and on all school vehicles by all persons at all times.
	This ban extends to all employes, students, and patrons attending any activities, events, programs, and meetings conducted in the buildings or on the grounds. The ban extends to school owned or contracted vehicles. The Board issues this ban in a sincere appeal to all employes, students, and patrons to cooperate in helping to create within our facilities a truly healthy environment for all concerned.
School Code 510	
Other Cites Act 168 of 1988	
Goals 2000	

TITLE: TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT

ADOPTED: June 16, 1998

	908.1. TITLE I PARENT INVOLVEMENT
1.Purpose	It is the desire of the Port Allegany School District to provide to parents of educationally disadvantaged children (those eligible for ECIA Chapter 1 programs) adequate opportunity to be informed, and to advise and comment on the design and implementation of ECIA Title I programs.
2.Responsibility	To ensure that this opportunity is afforded, the administration shall implement the following activities:
	1. Annually, parents of eligible ECIA Title I students in both public and nonpublic schools will be invited to a public meeting in which the programs and activities provided with ECIA funds will be explained.
	2. Parents will be notified in a timely manner when their children have been selected to participate in Title I programs. This notification shall include the reasons for the selection.
	3. Parents will be sent reports on the child's progress and conferences between parents and teachers will be scheduled as deemed necessary by the teacher or at the request of the parents.
	4. Parents will be surveyed annually as part of the required annual needs assessment for ECIA Title I.

SECTION:	COMMUNITY
TITLE:	RELATIONS WITH PARENTS
ADOPTED:	June 16, 1998
REVISED :	

	908. RELATIONS WITH PARENTS
1.Purpose	The Board believes that the education of children is a joint responsibility, one it shares with the parents of the school community. To insure that the best interests of the child are served in this process, a strong program of communication between home and school must be maintained.
2.Authority SC 1317	The Board feels that it is the parents who have the ultimate responsibility for their children's in school behavior, including the behavior of pupils who have reached the legal age of majority, but are still for all practical purposes, under parental authority. During school hours, the Board through its designated administrators acts in loco parentis or in place of the parents.
3.Guidelines	The Board directs that the following activities be implemented to encourage parent- school cooperation:
	1. parent-teacher conferences to permit two-way communication between home and school.
	2. open houses in district schools to provide parents with the opportunity to see the school facilities, meet the faculty and sample the program on a first-hand basis. Each school in the district shall hold an open house at least annually.
	3. meetings of parents and staff members to explain and discuss matters of general interest with regard to childschool, child-home, or child-homeschool relationships.
	4. meetings of staff members and groups of parents of those students having special abilities, disabilities, needs, or problems.
	5. special events of a cultural, ethnic, or topical nature, which are initiated by parent groups, involve the cooperative effort of students and parents, and are of general interest to the schools or community.
	For the benefit of children, the Board believes that parents have a responsibility to encourage their child's career in school by:

	1. supporting the school in requiring that children observe all school rules and regulations, and by accepting their own responsibility for children's willful in-school behavior.
	2. sending children to school with proper attention to their health, personal cleanliness and dress.
	3. maintaining an active interest in the student's daily work and making it possible for the student to complete assigned homework through providing a quiet place and suitable conditions for study.
	4. reading all communications from the school, and signing and returning them promptly when required.
	5. cooperating with the school in attending conferences set up for the exchange of information on the child's progress in school.
	6. participating in in-school activities and special functions.
School Code 1317	

TITLE: MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

ADOPTED: June 16, 1998

909. MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
It is the policy of the Board that this Board, school officials, and municipal officials maintain a close and harmonious association. Such liaison is requisite for dealing with school/community matters and problems in the most satisfactory manner and assuring the most prudent expenditure of tax dollars.
The Board recognizes that its authority arises directly from the General Assembly, but it also is aware that the municipality and the school district must work together for the welfare of the citizens.
To maintain fiscal and physical planning coopera tion with the municipality, the Business Manager will meet periodically with municipal officials to discuss plans for the next budget.
The Board advocates the joint expenditure of district funds and municipal or county funds to provide those facilities from which the entire community, children and adults alike, may derive benefits. In accordance with this policy, the Board shall, as either opportunity or need arises, and as it is entitled to do by law, enter into a joint powers agreement with the local municipal governing body in acquiring or leasing, improving, equipping, operating or maintaining jointly used facilities. The Board also recognizes the value of the water safety and recreation program which is managed by the Port Allegany Recreational Authority and desires to complement and encourage the program by opening a portion of the high school facility for its use.

SECTION:	COMMUNITY
TITLE:	COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADOPTED:	June 16, 1998
REVISED :	

	910. COMMUNITY RELATIONS
1.Purpose	The Board of Education feels it imperative that communication be maintained in both directions between the public schools of the district and such local institutions, organizations and groups as industry, business, labor, charity and other special interests which make up the structure of the community.
2.Authority	The Board has authority over the pupils in its care, but shares that authority to a limited extent through the cooperative training programs that take certain pupils into the community during part of their educational career. To make those experiences meaningful, the Board feels cooperation is essential with the community.
3.Responsibility	The Board believes that a two-way process of com munication between the schools and the public is vital to a sensitive, growing educational program. The Superintendent shall be directed to supervise an organized plan for disseminating objective, factual information and for accepting responses and suggestions.
School Code 1808	
PA Code Title 22 Sec. 5.152, 6.23	

SECTION: COMMUNITY TITLE: NEWS MEDIA RELATIONS ADOPTED: June 16, 1998 REVISED:

	911. NEWS MEDIA RELATIONS
1.Purpose	Representatives of the local press, radio and TV are an important link in the communications chain between school and community. The maintenance of good working relationships with media representatives is essential to meeting those objectives of the schoolcommunity relations program which require the support and cooperation of the news media.
2.Authority	The Board shall have the final approval for all basic policies concerning relations between the news media and the district. The chief communications representative for the Board shall be the Superintendent.
3.Delegation of Responsibility	The chief communications representative of the Board shall be responsible for: 1. being readily available to media representatives.
	2. providing media representatives upon their request with all facts that give a true picture to the best of his/her knowledge.
	3. keeping media representatives fully informed of all aspects of the school district so that any reporting will be done on the basis of a complete and valid overview.
	4. submitting or suggesting feature stories or articles to media representatives which are of interest or importance.
	5. assisting various school related groups such as PTO/PTA/PTSA, Title I Advisory Council, and Vocational Advisory Committee in their relations with the news media.
	6. acting in an advisory capacity to school sponsored student publications.
	7. assisting the Board in the preparation of regular and special publications to the public.
	8. making presentations about the district to various community civic and governing

bodies.

TITLE: RELATIONS WITH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

ADOPTED: June 16, 1998

	912. RELATIONS WITH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
1.Purpose	It is the policy of the Board that strong lines of communication be maintained by the district with other districts and institutions which provide programs, training, or services not otherwise available to children residing in this district, and with districts whose resident students are enrolled in programs of this district.
2.Authority	The district in which pupils are in attendance has responsibility and authority for said pupils. In order that those pupils receive maximum benefit from their program of studies, articulation between the cooperating institutions is essential.
3.Delegation of Responsibility	In order to maintain cordial and constructive re lationships with other educational institutions, the Superintendent shall
	(A. In the Case of a Receiving District)
	provide annually a complete description of all programs available to students of the sending district(s).
	provide an orientation program for incoming pupils of sending districts.
	assure that unusual traits of individual pupils entering this district have been made known to the staff members who could be of most assistance to such pupils.
	provide an adequate pupil progress report for sending districts to permit said districts to evaluate the educational preparation of their pupils.
	inform the sending district of any serious discipline problems encountered with pupils from their district.
	(B. In the Case of a Sending District)
	establish programs to ensure that pupils of this district are properly prepared to enter the schools of the receiving district.

912. RELATIONS WITH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS - Pg. 2

	develop procedures to follow the progress of the district's pupils during their career in the receiving school(s).
	keep the Board informed of any problems of an individual or group nature that may adversely affect the educational progress of the district's pupils.
	(C. With Parochial and Private Schools)
SC 1332, 1339, 1354, 1408	establish appropriate pupil accounting procedures to satisfy district and state requirements in the areas of enrollment, attendance, transportation and other special services.
	maintain liaison with the administrators of all private and parochial schools which enroll significant numbers of pupils resident in this district in order to be aware of any program changes that may be planned which could affect this district.
	(D. With Institutions of Higher Education)
	welcome representatives of institutions of higher education who wish to speak to students interested in attending their institutions upon completion of secondary education.
	cooperate with State institutions in the placement and evaluation of practice teachers in accordance with Board policy on student teachers.
	honor all requests for transcripts and other records in accordance with the Board's policy on pupil records.

TITLE: RELATIONS WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

ADOPTED: June 16, 1998

	913. RELATIONS WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS
1.Purpose	Any requests from civic organizations or special interest groups which involve such activities as patriotic functions, contests, exhibits, sales of products to or by students, sending promotional materials home with students, graduation prizes or fund raising must be examined to insure that such activities promote student interests primarily, rather than the special interests of any particular group.
2.Authority SC 775 Pol. 707	It is the policy of the Board that district facilities be used in accordance with the guidelines established in Policy 707.
3.Delegation of Responsibility	All materials or activities proposed by outside sources for student or staff use or participation shall be reviewed by the Superintendent on the basis of educational value to the total school program, benefit to pupils, advancement of the name, product or special interest of the proposing group, and factual accuracy.
4. Guidelines	A. Community Activities Involving Students
	The Board recognizes the social and scholastic values that may be derived from student participation in various activities sponsored by community organizations, but specifies the following guidelines to prevent unreasonable demands on the time and energies of students and staff.
	Requests for student participation in community sponsored activities must be made in writing to the Superintendent.
	The school schedule may not be interrupted unless the majority of students in the school benefit from their participation.
	B. Fund Raising
	Nonschool groups shall not be permitted to conduct sales, to advertise, or to solicit money at school-sponsored activities unless the proceeds of such activities are to be used directly to finance approved school activities.

 Requests to conduct sales or to solicit money are to be directed to the principal of the school conducting the school activity. Requests of an unusual or questionable nature shall be submitted to the Superintendent for consideration and disposition. C. Scholarships And Prizes The Board is appreciative of the generosity of organizations which offer scholarships or prizes to deserving students in this district. But, in accepting the offer of such scholarships or prizes, the Board directs that these guidelines be observed:
No information shall be released from the student's record for the purpose of selecting a scholarship or prize winner without the permission of the student who is eighteen, or the parents of a student who is younger, in accordance with the Board's policy on student records.
The type of scholarship or prize, and any restrictions pertaining thereto, shall be approved by the Board.
All pertinent information regarding the proposed award shall be submitted for the Superintendent's review in advance of the date on which the award is to be made.
The building principal, together with a committee of staff members designated by the principal, shall be involved in the selection of the recipient, and, if agreeable to the sponsoring organization, the selection shall be left entirely to the principal and staff committee.

TITLE: RELATIONS WITH INTERMEDIATE UNIT

ADOPTED: June 16, 1998

	914. RELATIONS WITH INTERMEDIATE UNIT
1.Purpose	It is the policy of this Board that open lines of communication be maintained with the Seneca Highlands Intermediate Unit number 9.
2.Authority SC 901(a)	Each district has an opportunity to actively participate in the service programs offered by the Inter mediate Unit.
3.Delegation of Responsibility	In order to maintain a constructive relationship with the Intermediate Unit, the Board member desig nated by the president is designated as the official liaison between the district and the Seneca Highlands Intermediate Unit number 9.
4.Guidelines	The duties of this liaison representative are to ensure that the Board of School Directors receives the necessary information and data that can lead to sound and valid judgments regarding decisions which involve participation by the district in the various programs offered by the Intermediate Unit.
	This liaison representative shall also arrange to ensure that the Board receives adequate information to give guidance to the programs and services of the Intermediate Unit.
SC 911(a)	The Board will annually review the programs of the district that involve intermediate unit services and make whatever determinations such a review shall suggest. This review will normally take place prior to the district's approval of the proposed I.U. budget.