ORGANIZATION, PHILOSOPHY, AND GOALS

Local School Organization and Administration

Visit~~or~~s to Schools from Dignitaries

This policy supersedes Policy 1360.~~2~~3.

I. PURPOSE

To authorize ~~patron~~ visits from dignitaries to schools.

II. SUMMARY OF CHANGES ~~SINCE LAST PUBLICATION~~

~~The name of the office of responsibility has been changed from the "Department of Communications and Community Outreach" to the "Office of Communication and Community Relations."~~

- Title of policy has been changed.
- The name of the office of responsibility has been changed from the "Office of Communication and Community Relations" to the "Office of the Division Superintendent."
- A philosophy section has been added.
- A reference to a regulation has been added.

III. PHILOSOPHY

The Fairfax County School Board recognizes that schools are vital public institutions within the broader community and that visits from dignitaries can provide meaningful opportunities to highlight student achievement and strengthen civic partnerships.

Although, the School Board believes the primary function of schools is teaching and learning and that school operations must remain orderly, secure, and minimally disrupted, the School Board seeks to establish a balanced approach by welcoming appropriate visits that support the division's mission while requiring clear authorization and centralized coordination through the Division Superintendent. These protocols ensure consistency, alignment with division priorities, protection of instructional time, and the safety and efficient operation of schools.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES ~~PROCEDURES FOR SCHOOL VISITATIONS~~

~~Principals and teachers shall welcome the routine visits of patrons of the schools. Outside organizations~~ Dignitaries seeking ~~wanting~~ to arrange visits to schools or central FCPS offices should contact the Office of the Division Superintendent. ~~Communication and Community Relations (OCCR).~~ The Division Superintendent ~~OCCR~~ will ~~attempt to ensure~~ coordinate with other division leadership to review and approve or decline visits, based primarily on ensuring that the number of such visits does not interfere with ongoing school and school system operations.

Each person entering a school shall go immediately to the ~~principal's~~ main office and obtain a visitor's pass. Those who do not obtain permission from the ~~principal's~~ main office

to visit the school shall be considered trespassers.

Legal reference: Code of Virginia, Section 18.2-128

Cross References: See also the current version(s) of

Policy 1800, Guidelines for Conduct of School Board and Other Election Campaigns
Regulation 1361, Visitor Conduct on FCPS Grounds

Policy
A~~a~~dopted: July 1, 1986
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