**ORGANIZATION, PHILOSOPHY, AND GOALS**

**Community Relations**

**Public Access to Information**

This policy supersedes Policy 1501.~~3~~4.

## I. PURPOSE

To establish the School Board's commitment to developing and maintaining positive relationships between the school division and ~~the residents of~~ Fairfax County residents and between local schools and their respective communities.

## II. SUMMARY OF CHANGES ~~SINCE LASTPUBLICATION~~

~~Section II.A. The word accord has been changed to accordance for clarification.~~

- A Philosophy section was added.
- A Definitions section was added.
- Renamed Commitment section to Responsibilities.
- Refined language regarding community input.

## III. PHILOSOPHY

The Fairfax County School Board believes that an informed and engaged public is essential to the success of our students and the health of our community.

## IV. DEFINITIONS

**Community Members:** Any individual residing, working, or owning property within Fairfax County, including students, parents, guardians, and local business owners.

**Closed Meeting:** A meeting from which the public is excluded, conducted strictly in accordance with the specific exemptions allowed under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (VFOIA).

**Public Session:** A meeting of the School Board that is open to the public for observation.

## V. RESPONSIBILITIES ~~COMMITMENT~~

~~In fulfilling this commitment, t~~The School Board shall:

A. Conduct its business in public sessions, except for matters discussed in closed meeting in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

B. Inform the community about policies, plans, and programs of the school system and achievements of its students and employees.

C. Invite and encourage the advice and counsel of ~~county citizens~~ community

members.

D. Recognize the responsibility and right of the news media to seek, analyze, and report, to the public, information about the school system and help the media do so.

Legal reference: Code of Virginia, Sections 2.2-3700 through 2.2-3714

Cross References: See also the current version of Regulation 1501, Public Access to Information.

Policy
Aadopted: July 1, 1986
Corrected: June 1, 1993
Revised: June 29, 2000
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FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD