



## **Section Seven: Community Partnerships**

### **725 – INVITING SPEAKERS TO SCHOOLS**

#### **Introduction**

The principal of a school may invite speakers to address students in a small group setting, a classroom setting, or to an assembly.

#### **Policy**

The principal is to be guided as follows:

1. Unless specified by other policy (e.g. Policy 515: *Family Life Education Program*), discussion of controversial issues by expert speakers is to be encouraged without promoting a particular point of view to the students.
2. The promotion of a specific religious point of view or a political philosophy must not be the reason for inviting a speaker to address students. However, a multi-party political forum or ecumenical discussion among representatives from various faiths may be organized.
3. Politicians (school trustees, local, provincial or federal) may be invited to address a class or an assembly except during an official election campaign. During election campaigns, all candidate forums are permitted at middle and secondary schools provided all registered candidates are invited. The forums will be for staff and students only and must be sponsored by a teacher. Each candidate may be accompanied by up to two campaign staff members.
4. The Board of Education must be informed when an elected/appointed local, provincial or federal representative is invited to speak to a school assembly.

Date Agreed: April 23, 1980

Date Amended: May 23, 2001

Date Amended/Reviewed: November 13, 2002

Date Amended: May 25, 2011; May 28, 2014

Related Document: Policy 515