906.1. ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS

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 Spring-Ford Area Board of Education believes the public has the right to bring before the Board issues and concerns they may have about items on the agenda or about things in general which affect the District or their children.

District employees and Board members receive many telephone calls, texts, e-mails, social media connections or comments and letters each day. On occasion, the caller or the author of the text, e-mail, post or comment and/or letter is anonymous. This type of communication is difficult, at best, for the District administrative staff to address. Accordingly, anonymous communications received by District employees and/or School Board members shall be discarded and not acted upon unless it contains an immediate concern for student, staff and/or community safety and well-being. Any student, staff and/or community safety and well-being concern will be addressed and may be forwarded to the appropriate authorities.

In addition, anonymous on-line complaints, posts, comments and/or feedback on social media websites or applications may also be disregarded and not acted upon unless it contains an immediate concern for student, staff and/or community safety and well-being. Any member of the public who wishes to use social media to provide comments on educational issues or other concerns are encouraged to do so on the District’s social media website or application.

3. Definition

For the purposes of this policy, the term Anonymous Communication shall mean any communication, regardless of the manner or medium by which it is transmitted (examples: telephone call, letter, e-mail, social media post/comment, etc.), which does not identify the person or entity making the communication, or which appears to identify the person or entity making the communication but that person or entity cannot be independently verified to be a resident or taxpayer of the Spring-Ford Area School District.