

COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN
Campaigning Practices Policy
(Adopted April 2021)

The following policy has been developed to encourage an election process that is equitable for all candidates, as well as to discourage activities which may have a negative effect on CEC, its board, staff, units, chapters, divisions or subdivisions.

- (1) The Council for Exceptional Children shall provide the qualifications and perspectives of the candidates to the membership through various impartial means.
- (2) The following practices will govern election campaigning for the Board of Directors.

Acceptable practices include:

- a) Candidates may:
 - o Network with professional colleagues via face-to-face meetings, one-to-one telephone calls, group mailings, social media platforms and/or group or individual emails to inform them of their nominations and seek their support.
 - o Participate in CEC planned activities provided to inform CEC members of all the candidates.
 - o Respond to unit and division questions that their group deem important to their members which could be published.
- b) Candidates' supporters, including units and divisions, may communicate with friends and colleagues through face-to-face communication, one-to-one telephone calls, social media platforms, and/or group or individual e-mails.

Unacceptable practices include:

- a) Making negative comments (verbal or written) about another candidate.
- b) These social media practices are not acceptable:
 - o Individually contacting members through CEC Community sites about their candidacy.
 - o Posting by the candidate or the candidate supporters about their candidacy on the CEC Community sites.
- c) Expenditures associated with candidacy with the exception of calls referred to in #1 and #2 above. These include:
 - o Soliciting or accepting financial support from either individuals, professional associations, corporations, or employers
 - o Seeking or accepting an employer or corporate sponsorship that would distribute campaign items or mailings on a candidate's behalf
 - o Seeking assistance from commercial entities in creating and/or managing a candidate's social media presence
- d) Production and use of campaign paraphernalia including, but not limited to buttons, fliers, balloons, display booths, stickers, ribbons, business cards, or other giveaways.
- e) Seeking or accepting financial contribution from any CEC Division or Unit and related entities.
- f) Seeking or accepting candidate endorsements from any CEC governance group or staff.

g) Running on a "ticket" (i.e.-encouraging members to vote for individuals as a part of a slate).

Note: Members of the Board of Directors and Leadership Development Committee shall remain neutral and non-partisan during the elections process.

(3) Any violations of these procedures shall be reported to the CEC President and will be considered by the Board of Directors, which will determine what action, if any, shall be taken.