## MIDDLE BUCKS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

SECTION: PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYES

TITLE: FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN NONINSTRUCTIONAL SETTINGS

ADOPTED: July 1, 1991

**REVISED:** 

## 420. FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN NONINSTRUCTIONAL SETTINGS

1.Purpose

The Executive Council acknowledges the right of its professional employes as citizens in a democratic society to speak out on issues of public concern. When those issues are related to the school and its programs, however, the employe's freedom of expression must be balanced against the interests of the school.

## 2. Guidelines

The following guidelines are adopted by the Executive Council to help clarify and therefore avoid situations in which the employe's expression could conflict with the school's interests. In situations in which the teacher is not engaged in the performance of professional duties, s/he shall:

state clearly that his/her expression represents personal views and not necessarily those of the school.

refrain from expressions that would interfere with the maintenance of discipline by school officials.

refrain from making public expressions which s/he knows to be false or made without regard for truth or accuracy.

not make threats against co-workers, supervisors or school officials.

Violations of these guidelines may result in disciplinary action, including dismissal.