

# **The Elementary School Choir Sings at the Methodist Church?**

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## **Standard 6**

A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by understanding, responding to, and influencing the larger political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context.

## **Issue**

The elementary principal receives a phone call asking for the elementary choir to sing at the Methodist ladies group luncheon. The Methodist Church is the largest church in the community. The elementary principal believes that the school should be an integral part of the community but also believes that the first priority of the school is the education of the children.

## **Assignment**

- Should the the choir miss school to sing at a church? Why?
- The district has a bond issue next month. Does your answer change? Why?
- The Superintendent and members of the school board attend the church. Does your answer change? Why?

**Instructors' Notes and Scoring Guide**  
For  
**The Elementary School Choir Sings  
at the Methodist Church?**

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**Notes to Instructor**

**Discussion**

The purpose of this vignette is to prompt discussion of the involvement of the school in the community. How should a principal balance the educational needs of students with involvement in the community? In discussing this vignette, students should identify the larger social, political, economic, legal, and cultural issues.

**Additional Standards**

This vignette could also apply to Standard 4: A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by collaborating with families and community members, responding to diverse community interests and needs, and mobilizing community resources. A discussion could evolve from this vignette focusing on the how the school can collaborate with community members and respond to diverse community interests.

**Extended Learnings**

Students could role play this situation. A group of Methodist ladies visit the principal in the office and insist that the elementary choir sing at their annual luncheon. They stress that many of the town leaders will be in attendance.

**Scoring Guide**

**Score 2**

Student directly answers the questions and provides supporting information for decision including at least two of the following:

- social issue
- political issue
- economic issue
- cultural issue
- legal issue

**Score 1**

Student answers the questions in a vague manner and only includes one of the following:

- social issue
- political issue
- economic issue
- cultural issue
- legal issue

**Score 0**

Student answers the questions in a vague manner and does not address any of the following issues:

- social issue

- political issue
- economic issue
- cultural issue
- legal issue