

BOARD POLICY PROCESS

The Board endorses for use in this District the policy development, codification, and dissemination system of the New Hampshire School Boards Association.

This system is to serve as a general guideline for such tasks as policy research, the drafting of preliminary policy proposals, reviewing policy drafts with concerned groups, presenting new and revised policies to the Board for consideration and action, policy dissemination, policy evaluation, and the maintenance of a continuously updated and easy-to-use policy manual.

Policy Adoption, Dissemination, and Review

- A. The Board may adopt, amend, or repeal written policies at any meeting by a majority vote of Board members in attendance, provided that notice of the proposed action was given at a previous Board meeting and that each Board member was notified of the proposed action. For purposes of notification, the meeting agenda delivered to each Board member is deemed sufficient.
- B. On matters of unusual or unexpected urgency, the Board may waive the second meeting limitation and take immediate action to adopt a new policy or revise an existing policy.
- C. The Board will allow an opportunity for public comments on policy proposals.
- D. All policies will be titled, dated, and coded consistent with the classification system used by the New Hampshire School Boards Association.
- E. Board action regarding the adoption, revision, or repeal of policies will be included in the minutes of the meeting at which the official action is taken.
- F. Policies and amendments will be effective immediately upon adoption, unless a specific effective date is provided in the adopted final policy.
- G. All written policies and administrative rules and regulations will be open for and available for public inspection, upon request.
- H. Hard copy manuals will be provided to each Board member upon request and one master copy at the SAU central office. An electronic version will be available on the SAU website.
- I. All Board policies will be reviewed and evaluated by the school board on a regular and continuing basis. The Board's policy manual will be updated due to actions taken as a result of this review and evaluation.

J. The Superintendent or designee is responsible for notifying the Board of all policy updates and revisions provided by the New Hampshire School Boards Association. The Board will then schedule time for review of such updates and will take action accordingly regarding the adoption, revision, or repeal of such policies.

K. The board will make every effort to ensure that its policies conform to the higher supremacy of state and federal laws, including the provisions of State and U.S. Constitutions. Questions concerning the legality of any policy should be addressed to the office of the superintendent and the school district counsel. Further, while it is not feasible to reiterate the principles of the board-adopted educational philosophy into the language of each and every policy statement, it is to be assumed that the spirit of this document will prevail in the implementation of all policies. Finally, the board requires all employees and students to comply with its formally-adopted policies. Failure to comply will be considered cause for disciplinary action.

A member of the SAU staff is to be designated and delegated by the Superintendent with the responsibility to maintain the Board's policy reference files, to draft policy proposals as instructed by the Board and/or Superintendent, to maintain the Board policy manual, and to serve as liaison between the Board, the New Hampshire School Boards Association, State Board of Education, and other sources of policy research information.

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