

PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTING BOARD POLICY

The Board is the policy-making body for the District. The policies of the Board shall be within the framework of state and federal laws, and regulations.

It is the board's intention that the written policies serve as guides for the discretionary action of those to whom it delegates authority and as a source of information and guidance for individuals interested in or affected by the district schools.

Development

Policies may be proposed by a school board member, employee, student or resident of the District. Proposed policies or ideas shall be submitted to the Administrator for review prior to possible placement on the board agenda. The Board shall determine if a need exists and shall direct the Administrator or board policy committee to draft a policy statement for presentation to the Board.

The Administrator and policy committee are authorized to seek expert assistance with policy development within financial parameters as directed by the Board.

When no board policy exists that provides guidance on a matter, the Administrator is authorized to act appropriately under the circumstances, keeping in mind the educational philosophy and financial condition of the District. Under these circumstances, the Administrator will advise the Board of the need for a policy and may present a recommended policy to the Board for approval.

Adoption

The Board shall adopt new policies and delete/modify existing policies when appropriate or required by law. Proposed policies and policy amendments shall be supplied to all board members and administration prior to a properly scheduled meeting at which the policy revision/draft will be discussed.

Adoption of any policy or substantive amendment to a policy shall require two readings. If an expedited process is deemed necessary, the Board may waive, by a 2/3rds majority of the Board, the second reading by citing this policy in the motion. Thus, the policy is adopted or amended with one reading and the procedure below shall not apply.

Substantive amendments and new policies cannot undergo more than one reading at any meeting of the Board. During the second reading of a new policy or substantive amendment, board action on the proposal shall be final if the proposal is approved in an identical form as passed at the previous meeting. If a revised form of the proposal is approved, or if approval includes an amendment, the proposal shall be resubmitted for action at a future board meeting. Action shall be by majority vote of those board members present.

The Board shall repeal or reaffirm existing board policy in one reading. Past practice shall govern district operations, covered by the former policy, until the Board adopts a new policy.

**RECOMMENDED
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Descriptor Code: BDA

Policies and amendments adopted by the Board shall be attached to, and made part of, the minutes of the meeting at which action was taken and be included in the district's board policy manual.

Board Regulations & Policy Exhibits

The Board may develop regulations (-BR) to implement policy when the Board determines that this task is not appropriate to delegate to administration, when regulations are created on a highly litigious matter, or when law requires board approval on regulations. Board regulations shall require one reading.

Policy administrative regulations (-AR) and exhibits (-E) shall be developed when needed to help implement policy but shall not be adopted by the Board. Policy exhibits include, but are not limited to, summaries of law, forms, and other informational material.

Policy Implementation

Administrators are responsible for informing subordinates of existing policies and regulations and ensuring that they are implemented in the spirit intended. Continuous disregard for board policy and regulations may be interpreted as insubordination and/or willful neglect of duty. In such circumstances, subordinates may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action including, but not limited to: a reprimand, suspension, or a recommendation for termination/discharge in accordance with applicable law and/or policy.

Policy Review and Revision

The Board shall review policies at least once every three years. The Administrator is responsible for developing a system of periodic review, addressing approximately one third of the policies annually. The Administrator shall promptly notify the Board when policies are out of date or in need of revision.

Should any policy of the District be found to conflict with requirements in law or be declared illegal by a court of competent jurisdiction, said policy shall be automatically rescinded to the extent that it violates the law. The remaining policies shall remain in full force and effect until rescinded or amended by the Board.

Suspension of Policy

Only those policies not established by law or negotiated agreement may be temporarily suspended and then only by a two-thirds vote of board members present at a regular or special meeting.

Policy Manuals

Each school board member shall have access to the district's policy manual. A copy of the manual shall be kept in the district office. The policy manual will be available to the public in accordance with state law and district policy.

All policy manuals distributed shall remain the property of the Yellowstone School District and shall be considered "on loan" to anyone, or any organization, in whose possession they might be at any time. They are subject to recall at any time deemed necessary by the Administrator or Board, whether for updating or other good cause.

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The Policy Liaison is responsible for keeping policy manuals current.

Policy Liaison

The Board designates the Business Manager as the District's Policy Liaison. The Policy Liaison shall be the caretaker of all district policies and in charge of updating the Policy Manual once polices are approved by the Board.

Complementing NDSBA Templates (may contain items not adopted by the Board)

- BDA-E, Policy Acknowledgement Form
- CBAA, Administrative Regulations

End of Yellowstone Policy BDA Adopted: 4/20/2020

Reviewed: 9/16/24