Adopted: 8/22/00
Revised: 4/28/15, 9/27/16, 3/22/22, 02/28/23, 12/16/25, 10/20/26

208 DEVELOPMENT, ADOPTION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to emphasize the importance of the policy-making role of the governing board and provide the means for it to be an ongoing effort.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

Formal guidelines are necessary to ensure the school community that the school system responds to its mission and operates in an effective, efficient, and consistent manner. A set of written policies shall be maintained and modified as needed. Policies should define the desire and intent of the governing board and should be in a form that is sufficiently explicit to guide administrative action.

III. DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY

A. The governing board has jurisdiction to legislate policy with the force and effect of law for the school district. School district policy provides the governing board's general direction for the governing board while delegating policy implementation to the administration.

B. The school district's policies provide guidelines and goals to the school community. The policies are the basis for guidelines and directives created by the administration. The governing board shall determine the effectiveness of the policies by evaluating periodic reports from the administration.

C. Policies may be proposed by a governing board member, employee, student, or resident of the school district. Proposed policies or ideas shall be submitted to the Executive Director for review prior to possible placement on the governing board agenda.

IV. ADOPTION AND REVIEW OF POLICY

A. The governing board shall give notice of proposed policy changes or adoption of new policies by placing the item on the agenda of two (2) governing board meetings. The proposals shall be distributed and public comment will be allowed at both meetings.

B. The final action taken to adopt the proposed policy shall be approved by a simple majority vote of the governing board at a meeting after the two (2) meetings at which public input was received. The policy will be effective on the latter of the date of passage or the date stated in the motion.

C. In an emergency, a new or modified policy may be adopted by a majority vote of a quorum of the governing board in a single meeting. A statement regarding the emergency and the need for immediate adoption of the policy shall be included in the minutes. The policy adopted in an emergency shall expire within one (1) year following the emergency action unless the policy adoption procedure stated above is followed and the policy is reaffirmed. The governing board shall have discretion to determine what constitutes an emergency.

D. If a policy is revised with minor, technical changes that do not affect the substance of the policy, or because of a legal change over which the governing board has no control, the modified policy may be approved at one meeting at the discretion of the school board.

V. IMPLEMENTATION OF AND ACCESS TO POLICY

A. The Executive Director shall be responsible for implementing governing board policies, other than policies that cover how the governing board will operate. The Executive Director shall develop administrative guidelines and directives to provide greater specificity and consistency in the process of implementation. These guidelines and directives, including employee and student handbooks, shall be subject to annual review and approval by the governing board.

B. Each governing board member shall have access to school district policies. A copy of the school district policies shall be placed in the office of each school attendance center and in the central school district office and shall be available for reference purposes to other interested persons.

C. The Executive Director, employees designated by the Executive Director, and individual governing board members shall be responsible for keeping the policy current.

D. The governing board shall review policies at least once every three (3) years. The Executive Director shall be responsible for developing a system of periodic review, addressing approximately one third of the policies annually. In addition, the governing board shall review the following policies annually: 506 Student Discipline; 722 Public Data Requests; and 806 Crisis Management Policy.

E. When no governing board policy exists to provide guidance on a matter, the Executive Director is authorized to act appropriately under the circumstances keeping in mind the mission, educational philosophy, and financial condition of the school district. Under such circumstances, the Executive Director shall advise

the governing board of the need for a policy and present a recommended policy to the governing board for approval.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 123B.02, Subd. 1 (School District Powers)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.09, Subd. 1 (School Board Powers)

Cross Reference

Policy 305 (Policy Implementation)