

Nebo School District Board of Education

Policy BCD

BOARD-SUPERINTENDENT RELATIONSHIP

The establishment of policies for the governing of a school district by the Board of Education and the administration of those policies by the Superintendent of schools calls for a high order of devotion, statesmanship, and integrity. It is of utmost importance for the good of the children in our schools, that the Board and the Superintendent work in an atmosphere of mutual trust and good will.

The Nebo School District Board of Education and administrators urge the acceptance of the following principles and procedures to promote effective cooperation in their efforts to face intelligently the problems of their school district . . . It is to be understood that these statements are in no sense to be substitutes for, but rather be helpful in carrying our local policies and procedures which each Board should establish and publish for its school district.

1. The Board will establish such policies for the operation of the schools as are prescribed by law and such other policies as may seem advisable and have them prepared in such written form that all concerned will be aware of them.
2. The Board will select a Superintendent of schools who shall be the head of the school system and be directly responsible to the Board for the total administration of the school district. The Board will not assume the administrative function, but will vest in the Superintendent executive authority commensurate with responsibility.
3. The Board shall provide personnel necessary and appropriate to assure successful administration of schools and set up a precise line of authority or chain of command with the Superintendent as the chief administrative and executive officer.
4. The Board will endeavor to give counsel and advice to the Superintendent regarding the administration of the schools as it deems necessary or expedient, remembering always that Board members as individuals have no authority and only policies voted by the Board have force. The Board will adopt policies only after consulting with the Superintendent.
5. The Board will require of the Superintendent such periodic reports as the Board deems necessary to keep it properly advised on the administration of the school district. The Superintendent must be frank, honest, concise, and complete in reporting to the Board. Important school matters requiring Board action should be presented by the Superintendent to the Board as required, not in a semi-private way to individual members.
6. The Board will expect from the Superintendent recommendations for the improvement of the school district. The Superintendent's role is to provide educational leadership for the public schools of the community. The Superintendent shall not have his or her leadership questioned unjustifiably or his authority confused by frequent and easy appeal from administrative decisions.
7. The Board will require of the Superintendent attendance at all Board meetings except at times when the Superintendent's own employment may be under consideration, or when, by mutual consent, he or she is absent for a reason authorized by the Board.

8. The Board will employ, promote, transfer, suspend, or dismiss personnel only after consultation and upon recommendation by the Superintendent, and will issue all orders affecting employees through the Superintendent . . .
9. The Superintendent, as the executive officer and professional advisor to the Board, will endeavor to develop ways and means of serving the community and of keeping parents, patrons, and taxpayers informed of school programs throughout activities based on a continuing information policy established by the Board.
10. The Board recognizes its legal responsibilities for the operation of a good school system, including the right to reject any and all recommendations and the obligation to revise its policies from time to time to meet changing conditions.
11. The Board is the step of appeal for any issue which cannot be resolved through the regularly constituted administrative channels.
12. All meetings and records of the Board shall be open to the public, with exceptions, as provided in law for negotiations, property, acquisition and personnel matters in which case the Board shall vote to sit in executive session . . . for purposes of informal discussions only.
13. The Board and the Superintendent shall have as the basic criterion for evaluating any issue that has an effect upon the educational welfare of boys and girls.
14. The Board, together with the Superintendent, has a moral obligation to provide such leadership and render such service as will give dignity to and engender trust and confidence in American public education. It is their obligation and responsibility to work together in long-range planning for an increasingly effective program of education for all our people and, insofar as it is required of each, to submerge personal ambition, prejudice, and desires to that end.
15. The Board and the Superintendent shall assume the initiative for orienting the newly elected Board member to his or her responsibilities as a member of a public governing body. Attendance by all Board members at area seminars and workshops can enhance the effectiveness of their service on the Board.

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