

The development and adoption of policies that govern the Milford School District is one of the Board's most important functions. Board policies establish the goals, direction, and structure of the District under the authority of applicable statutes and regulations. In addition to policies required by state and federal laws and regulations, the Board adopts policies to provide direction to the Superintendent and other administrators in the management of the District, to guide the education program, and to provide clear expectations for school staff, students, and parents.

Board policies are intended to provide the framework for District operations and the educational system. In general, the operational details as to how policies will be implemented are contained in administrative procedures developed by the administration. However, the Board may adopt administrative procedures concerning its own operations or when an issue is of sufficient legal importance to warrant a Board-level procedure.

- A. Policy Committee Responsibilities and Meetings. The Board's Policy Committee, with the advice and counsel of the Superintendent, is responsible for recommending policies and policy actions to the full Board for its consideration, including adopting new policies, revising existing policies, and deleting obsolete policies.
- B. Policy Committee Meetings and Agendas. The Superintendent or his/her designee, in consultation with the Policy Committee Chair, shall prepare all agendas for the meetings of the Policy Committee.
- C. Review of Existing Manual. The Policy Committee shall meet monthly throughout the year, as deemed necessary by the Committee, for reviewing existing Board policies and forming recommendations for the Board in accordance with Policy 2135 (BDE)
- D. Procedures for Policy Development and Review.
 - 1. Individual Board members, Board standing or special advisory committees, the Superintendent, or other interested persons may submit policy suggestions, concerns, and/or drafts to the Policy Committee, in care of the Superintendent.
 - 2. The Superintendent or designee is responsible for notifying the Board and the Policy Committee of all policy updates and revisions provided by the New Hampshire School Boards Association. The Policy Committee will review such updates and make recommendations deemed appropriate under this policy.
 - 3. The Policy Committee, with the assistance of the Superintendent or designee, will review and research policy suggestions and prepare draft policies, as appropriate. The Policy Committee may delegate research and initial drafting

to other Board standing committees, to District staff, or others at the discretion of the Policy Committee and the Superintendent. (E.g., a policy concerning computer use may first be delegated to the Technology Committee.) If a policy is referred to a committee, staff, professional, or other person for initial review/drafting, the policy shall be reviewed by the Policy Committee before submission to the full Board.

4. The Superintendent should seek counsel of the School Board's attorney or the New Hampshire School Boards Association when there may be a question of legality or proper legal procedure in the substance of any proposed or current board policy.
5. The Policy Committee may also seek input from other affected persons and/or groups as appropriate.
6. The Policy Committee will provide a report to the full board following Policy Committee Meetings. The reports will include the Policy Committee's recommendations for new policies (including full text of policies/revisions to be considered for action by the Board), as well as recommendations for repeal of existing policies. Policy Committee reports should also include any information requested by the full board and any other information deemed appropriate by the Policy Committee.

E. Board Actions Required to Approve, Revise, or Repeal Policies. Any final action regarding the approval of a new policy, or revision or repeal of an existing policy, requires a majority vote of the board at a public meeting.

1. Policy Committee reports shall be placed on the agenda of a regular Board meeting and will be made part of the agenda package for that meeting.
2. All new policies, and/or revisions to existing board policies are subject to a "first reading" by the full board to occur at a regular board meeting. (There is no requirement that proposed policies/revisions be read aloud at the meeting, although either a majority of the Board or the Chair may determine that actual reading is appropriate).
3. The Board will allow the opportunity for public comment on policy proposals per Board policy 2152 (BEDH).
4. Any changes agreed upon or requested by the board during the first reading shall be made by the Superintendent, his/her designee, or the policy committee prior to the second reading.
5. At the next Board meeting (or a later meeting if so agreed by the Board), the policy shall be placed on the agenda for a second (or additional) reading and

action. Amendments may be made and acted upon at that meeting, or may be referred for further revision, etc.

6. Prior to final approval by the Board, each policy will be titled, dated, numbered, and/or coded consistent with the classification system used by the New Hampshire School Board Association.
7. 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.
8. Approved policies become effective immediately unless the motion to approve the policy, or the policy itself, includes a specific implementation date.

F. Minor Revisions by Policy Committee.

The Board authorizes the Policy Committee to make non-substantive corrections and minor changes to existing policies, provided that the Policy Committee shall document such modifications and report the same at the next meeting of the School Board. For the purposes of this policy, "non-substantive changes" shall include: grammatical, typographical, or other clerical changes; addition or deletion of legal, cross, or other references; policy code or policy class designation changes; or correcting misidentified or modified job titles (e.g., "school counselor" in place of "guidance counselor"). Upon review of such a report from the Policy Committee, the Board may take such action as the Board deems appropriate, including accepting the report without objection or other formal action.

G. Suspension of Policy Process.

1. The Board may adopt, amend, or repeal written policies at any meeting by a majority vote of Board members in attendance, provided that public notice of the proposed action was given at least 24 hours in advance, and that each Board member was notified of the proposed action. For purposes of notification, a meeting agenda delivered to each Board member is deemed sufficient if it identifies the policy to be acted upon.
2. 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, or to suspend or revise an existing policy. In such instances, the meeting minutes should reflect the nature of the circumstances warranting the suspension of the normal procedures.

H. Policy Dissemination, Records and Manual Updates.

1. All Board policies, and any written administrative rules and regulations implementing such policies, constitute governmental records and are subject to the provisions of RSA 91-A.

2. Notice of new, revised, and deleted policies should be provided to affected groups (i.e., school staff, students, parents) and posted on the District website and by other such appropriate means determined by the Superintendent. Information about the location of the policies shall be included in all parent/student and employee handbooks.
3. The Superintendent will ensure that information about new Board policies and any Board policy revisions, repeals, or other changes is included in a timely manner on the District's website, is otherwise made publicly available, and is specifically communicated to affected groups (i.e., school staff, students, parents).
4. The Superintendent shall retain as government records copies of all policies deleted from the Board policy manual.
5. An up-to-date policy manual shall be maintained on the District's website with a hard copy in the Superintendent's Office. The Superintendent or Designee shall also ensure that all hard copies of the District's policy manual are updated as appropriate.

NH Statutes
RSA 189:74

Description
[School Board Public Comment Period](#)

RSA 91-A:2

[Meetings Open to Public](#)

NH Dept of Ed Regulation

Description

N.H. Code Admin. Rules 306.04(a) [Availability of School Policy](#)

N.H. Code Admin. Rules 306.04(b) [Required Policies](#)

District revision history: 9/11/2000, 12/15/2003, 12/6/2021, 11/4/2025