

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY

The Lisbon School Committee considers policy development its most important governance function.

It is the intent of the Committee to develop written policies that will serve as the foundation for the successful and efficient operation of Lisbon School Department and its schools.

The Committee accepts the definition of policy set forth by the National School Committees Association:

School Committee policies are statements that set forth the purposes and prescribe in general terms the organization and program of a school system. They create a framework within which the Superintendent and the staff can discharge their assigned duties with positive direction. They tell what is wanted. They may also indicate why and how much. Policies should define clearly the goals and objectives of the school system, allow for the flexibility that is vital in day-to-day operations, reflect the committee's vision, define roles and responsibilities (who is supposed to do what), and include measurable outcomes.

The Committee's policies are framed and meant to be interpreted in terms of federal laws and regulations, state statutes and the rules of the Maine Department of Education, State Committee of Education, and other regulatory agencies at various levels of government. The Committee's policies are also intended to reflect the Committee's educational philosophy and instructional objectives and practices and procedures that are supported by research and generally accepted by leaders and authorities in the field of public education.

It is the Committee's intent that its policies set goals and provide direction and guidance for administrators, staff, and students and serve as sources of information for parents, community members and others who are interested in or connected with the schools.

The Committee regards policy development and review as an ongoing process. The need for a new policy or revision or deletion of an existing policy may arise from a change in law and/or regulations, modification of the school unit's vision or goals, educational research or trends, the occurrence of a significant incident or a recommendation or request from Committee members, school administrators, staff, parents, students or other interested persons.

Adoption of new or revised policies and repeal of existing policies is solely the responsibility of the Committee. Policies will be adopted, amended or repealed only by the affirmative vote of a majority of members present and voting.

Policies shall become effective upon Committee adoption or at a future date designated by the Committee at the time of adoption.

The Superintendent/designee will be responsible for distributing new or revised policies to Committee members and for making policies accessible to school personnel, students and the public.

Legal Reference: 20-A MRSA §1001 (1) (A)

Cross Reference: BEDF – Voting Procedure  
BG-R – Policy Adoption Procedure

Adopted: June 11, 2001  
Reviewed: March 13, 2006  
Reviewed: January 12, 2009  
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