

LEXINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY

POLICY for POLICY IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE LEXINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Date Approved by
School Committee:**

10/24/00

Signature of Chair:

On File

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I. BACKGROUND

The policies of the School Committee are framed, and are meant to be interpreted, in terms of relevant laws, regulations, and existing lawful contracts.

The Superintendent is given the continuing commission of calling to the committee's attention all policies that are out of date or for other reason appear to need revision, and is authorized to implement administrative procedure relative to any new and existing policies.

In the event of a discrepancy, the official policy of the School Committee is as maintained at the office of the Superintendent with the original signature of the School Committee Chairperson.

II. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The School Committee will develop and adopt policies and put them in writing so that they may serve as guides for the discretionary action of those to whom it delegates authority.

Adoption of new policies and changing existing policies is the sole responsibility of the School Committee, unless superceded by law. Policies will be adopted and/or amended only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the School Committee when such action has been scheduled on the agenda of a regular or special meeting.

The formulation and adoption of these written policies will constitute the basic method by which the School Committee will exercise its leadership in providing for the successful and efficient functioning of the school system. Through the study and evaluation of reports concerning the execution of its policies, the School Committee will exercise its control over school operation.

The School Committee accepts the definition of policy set forth by the national School Boards Association:

“Policies are principles adopted by a School Committee to chart a course of action. They tell what is wanted; they may include why and how much. Policies should be broad enough to indicate a line of action to be followed by the administration in meeting day-to-day problems, yet be specific enough to give clear guidance.”

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III. APPLICATION

To permit time for study of all policies or amendments to policies and to provide an opportunity for interested parties to react, proposed policies or amendments will be presented as an agenda item to the committee in the following sequence:

Information Item - distribution with agenda.

Discussion Item - The reading of proposed policy or policies; response from Superintendent;
Report from any advisory committee assigned responsibility in the area;
Committee discussion and directions for any redrafting.

Action Item - discussion, adoption or rejection.

Amendments to the policy at the action stage will not require repetition of the sequence, unless the committee so directs.

The School Committee may dispense with the above at its discretion.

Final Reading: 10/24/00

Reformatted: 4/2003