

SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The Westfield School Committee shall reserve to itself the function of providing guides for the discretionary action of those to whom it delegates authority. These guides for discretionary action shall constitute the policies governing the operation of the school system. They shall be recorded in writing.

The formulation and adoption of these written policies shall constitute the basic method by which the School Committee shall exercise its leadership in the operation of the school system. The study and evaluation of reports concerning the execution of its written policies shall constitute the basic method by which the School Committee shall exercise its control over the operation of the school system.

The formal adoption of policies shall be recorded in the minutes of the School Committee. Only those written statements so adopted and so recorded shall be regarded as official School Committee policy.

The Superintendent or designee, as the policy draft writer for the School Committee, shall seek Legal Counsel when in their opinion or in the opinion of the School Committee there may be a question of legality or proper legal procedure in the development of a proposed School Committee policy.

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.

The policies of the School Committee are framed, and are meant to be interpreted in terms of state law, regulations of the Massachusetts Board of Education, and other regulatory agencies of the various levels of government.

SOURCE: MASC

Adopted: September 24, 1973

First reading: November 21, 2016

2nd final reading & amended: December 5, 2016