

RSU #16 (Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland)

Policy Code: *IHBAC*

Adopted: *January 2003*

Revised: ~~*February 2011*~~ *March 2019*

CHILD FIND

PHILOSOPHY:

It is the philosophy of the RSU #16 School Board that students in need of special education or supportive services shall be identified in accordance with this policy.

POLICY:

The RSU #16 School Board seeks to ensure that all students within its jurisdiction are identified, located, and evaluated who are school-age (5 through the school year in which they turn 20) and who are in need of special education and supportive assistance – including state wards, state agency clients, students who have been suspended or expelled, students attending private schools and home schools, institutionalized residents, highly mobile students with disabilities, and students who are suspected of being disabled and in need of special education and supportive assistance even though they are advancing from grade to grade.

This Child Find responsibility shall be accomplished through a school-wide process which, while not a definitive or final judgment of a student's capabilities or disability, is a possible indicator of special education needs. Final identification of students with disabilities and programming for such students occurs only after an appropriate evaluation and a determination by the Individual Education Plan Team (IEP).

Each SAU shall provide child find during the first 30 days of the school year or during the first 30 days of enrollment for transfer children. If evidence of Child Find activities and a statement of the results can be found in a child's cumulative record, or the unit has reason to believe the child has previously been identified as a child with a disability by another SAU, in state or out of state, child find is not necessary.

As part of this Child Find responsibility, the RSU #16 School Board shall identify, locate, and evaluate all students enrolled in public school, private school, or home school, including all entering kindergarten students and transfer students at any grade level. The Child Find process shall include obtaining data on each student, through direct assessment or by indirect means of the student's academic performance, gross and fine motor skills, receptive and expressive skills, vision, hearing, and cognitive skills.

If the Child Find process indicates that a student may require special education and supportive services in order to benefit from regular education, the student shall be referred to the IEP to determine the student's eligibility for special education services. School staff, parents/guardians, or agency representatives may refer the students to the IEP if they believe that the student, because of a disability, may be in need of special education and supportive services in order to benefit from regular education.

Some factors that may be considered when making a referral might include whether the student has accumulated 45 absences during a school year, has been suspended or removed for disciplinary reasons in excess of 10 cumulative school days in the school year, or has experienced an illness, hospitalization, or accident that may indicate a need for special education and supportive services. These considerations are guidelines only and do not mandate or preclude referral to the IEP.

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY:

The RSU #16 School Board delegates the authority to carry out this policy to the Superintendent of Schools, who shall have the authority to delegate the duties of the policy to the Special Education Director.

REPORTS:

The Special Education Director shall maintain information, process forms and generate the reports necessary to be in compliance with State and Federal Laws.

LEGAL REFERENCES:

34 CFR § 300.125 (1999); Me. Spec. Ed. Reg. ch. 101 §§ 7.1-7.10 (1999)

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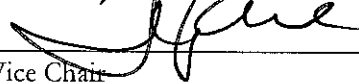
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RSU #16 School Board



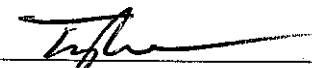
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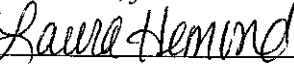
Mike Downing

11 March
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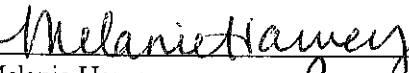
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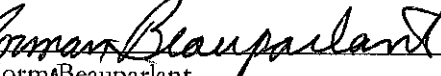
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SCHOOL BOARD POLICY & PROCEDURE

The development and adoption of policies that govern the school unit is one of the School Board's most important functions. Board policies establish the philosophy, goals, direction and structure of the school unit under the authority of state law. 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 school unit, 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 school unit operations and the educational system. Policies are meant to be interpreted in terms of federal laws and regulations, state statutes and the rules of the Maine Department of Education, State Board of Education and other regulatory agencies at the various levels of government.

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

Adoption of new or revised policies and repeal of existing policies is solely the responsibility of the RSU #16 School Board. Policies will be adopted, amended or repealed only by the affirmative vote of a majority of members present and voting.

Policy Procedure

- A. The Educational Policy Committee is responsible for recommending policy actions to the Board for its consideration, including adopting new policies, revising existing policies and deleting obsolete policies.
 1. Individual Board members, Board standing or advisory committees, the Superintendent or other interested persons may submit policy suggestions and concerns to the Board Chair, who will forward them to the Educational Policy Committee.
 2. The Educational Policy Committee, with the assistance of the Superintendent, will review and research policy suggestions and prepare draft policies, as appropriate.
 3. As appropriate to the particular topic, the Educational Policy Committee may also seek input from other affected persons and/or groups.
- B. Recommended new and revised policies and recommendations for policy deletions shall be placed on the agenda of a regular Board meeting for a first reading. Board members shall receive the policy and the Educational Policy Committee's recommendations in advance of the meeting date. The Educational Policy Committee chair will explain the proposed policy or policy change. The Board may discuss the substance of the policy and a vote shall be held to acknowledge the first reading.

RSU #16 (Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland)(msm)

Policy Code: BG

Adopted: April 2012

Revised: March 2019

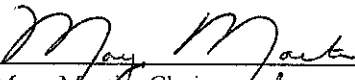
- C. Any changes agreed upon by the Board during the first reading by consensus or by vote on a motion to amend shall be made by the Superintendent and/or Educational Policy Committee prior to the second reading.
- D. At the next regular Board meeting (or a later meeting if so agreed by the Board), the policy shall be placed on the agenda for a second reading and action. Amendments may be made and acted upon. If the policy is not approved by majority vote, the process for that policy is ended unless the Board agrees to table consideration of the policy to a specific date or otherwise dispose of the policy.
- E. Approved policies become effective immediately unless the motion to approve the policy includes a specific implementation date.
- F. Notice of new and revised policies will be provided to affected groups, (i.e., school staff, students, parents) through a means determined by the Superintendent.
- G. The Superintendent shall retain copies of all policies deleted from the Board policy manual for future reference.
- H. An up-to-date policy manual shall be maintained in the Superintendent's Office. The Superintendent shall publish all policies on the school unit's website.

Legal Reference:

20-A M.R.S.A. § 1001

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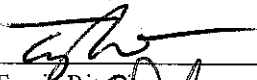
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RSU #16 (Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland)(msm)

Policy Code: BDE

Adopted: December 2012

Revised: March 2019

SCHOOL BOARD STANDING COMMITTEES

The Board believes that standing committees can be useful to its decision-making process and in the transaction of Board business. The Board may establish such standing committees as it deems necessary to facilitate school unit governance and address ongoing school unit needs. A standing committee has only such authority as specified by the Board. All standing committees shall be comprised of less than a majority of the Board.

All standing committee meetings are open to the public except as provided by the Freedom of Access Law and the Municipal Public Employees Labor Relations Law.

Establishment and Functions of Standing Committees

The following provisions apply to the establishment and functions of standing committees:

- A. All standing committees shall be established by vote of the Board. A motion to establish a standing committee shall state the purpose and responsibilities of the committee (the "charge") and set the number of members comprising the committee.
- B. The Board Chair will appoint members to a standing committee from among the membership of the Board. For existing standing committees, appointments will be made at or as soon as practicable after the School Board's annual organizational meeting.
- C. The Board Chair may also make appointments to standing committee vacancies on standing committees that occur prior to the Board's next organizational meeting.
- D. The term of appointment to a standing committee shall be until the next organizational meeting.
- E. Each standing committee will elect its own chair.
- F. The Board Chair and Superintendent shall be ex officio (non-voting) members of all standing committees.
- G. Any Board member may attend standing committee meetings, but only appointed members of the committee may vote.
- H. Except as authorized by law or Board action, a standing committee may research issues and make recommendations for Board action, but may not act for the Board.
- I. A standing committee may be abolished at any time by a vote of the Board.
- J. The number of members on a standing committee and/or the responsibilities of a standing committee may be modified at any time by a vote of the Board.

Authorization/Appointment of Standing Committees

The Board shall have the following standing committees:

Operations Committee _____

Personnel & Finance Committee _____

Educational Policy Committee _____

The Board may establish other standing committees it deems necessary in accordance with this policy.

Legal Reference:

1 M.R.S.A. § 401 et seq.

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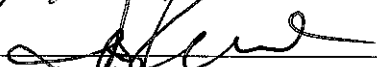
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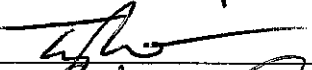
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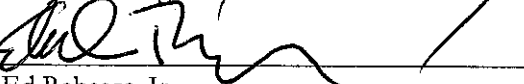
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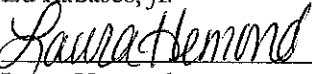
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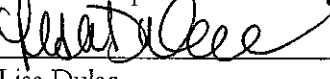
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