

CHAPTER: SCHOOL BOARD OPERATIONS

TITLE: POLICY TO PROMOTE SCHOOL BOARD EFFECTIVENESS

- 1.0 **Purpose:** Enacted in 1993 and amended in 2003, West Virginia Code 18-5-14 places school boards in the forefront of citizen-inspired public education leadership, policy and decision-making. In order to fulfill the requirements of the statute, the Board adopts this policy.
- 2.0 **Direct Links Between the Board and Local School Improvement Councils** To enable the Board to receive information, comments, and suggestions directly from local school improvement councils regarding broad guidelines for oversight procedures, standards of accountability, and planning for future needs, the following direct links are established between the Board and its local school improvement councils:
 - 2.1 **Scheduled Annual Meetings** The Board shall meet at least annually with a quorum of members from each local school improvement council. The meetings shall be scheduled as follows: The Superintendent shall establish a schedule of special board meetings at each school for the purpose of meeting with each local school improvement council.
 - 2.2 **Annual Meeting Agenda** At least 30 days before a local school improvement council's annual meeting with the Board, the Board shall develop and submit to the local school improvement council an agenda for the meeting. The agenda shall identify the items which the council chair or the chair's designee is to address at the meeting. The items shall include, but need not be limited to, items designated by the Board from the report created for the State Board under part 2.5 of this policy, as well as one or more of the following issues: school performance, curriculum, status of the school in meeting the unified school improvement plan, and status of the school in meeting the county plan.
 - 2.3 **Requests for information** Throughout the year, the Board may make written requests for information from local school improvement councils or hold community forums to receive input from the affected community as the Board considers necessary.
 - 2.4 **Additional Meetings** In its discretion, the Board may hold additional meetings with any local school improvement council. In particular, the Board may schedule additional meetings with the local school improvement council for any low performing school. **Local School Improvement Council may also request meetings with the Board.**
 - 2.5 **Annual Report** At the conclusion of each school year, the Superintendent shall prepare, for adoption by the Board, a report concerning the meeting or meetings held with the local school improvement councils during the school year. In drafting the report, the Superintendent shall consult with the councils and may request their assistance. Upon approval by the Board, and no later than September 1 of each year the report, including any amendments made by the Board, shall be delivered by the Superintendent to the WV State Board of Education.

3.0 **Direct Links Between the Board and Faculty Senates** To enable the Board to receive information, comments, and suggestions directly from faculty senates regarding broad guidelines for oversight procedures, standards of accountability, and planning for future needs, the following direct links are established between the Board and its faculty senates:

Surveys

Special Board meetings involving faculty senates

Meeting with faculty senate chairs, annual meeting with faculty senates and/or representatives to enhance dialogue with the Board

Forums

Town meetings

The Board shall itemize what it expects from the faculty senate representative

4.0 **Direct Links Between the Board and the Community at Large** The following steps shall be taken to develop direct links between the Board and the community at large, allow for community involvement at regular board meetings, and regularly communicate with the public regarding important issues:

4.1 The Board shall maintain a Website as an effective means of communicating with the public **with the annual board meeting dates and locations posted.**

4.2 The Board shall distribute minutes of all regular and special meetings to the local media.

5.0 **Periodic Review of Personnel Policies** The following procedures shall be followed to ensure that the Board's personnel policies are periodically reviewed to determine their effectiveness:

5.1 **The Board will establish work sessions throughout the school year to review personnel policies to determine their effectiveness.**

5.2 The Board will utilize goals and objectives with input from local school improvement councils, faculty senates, the community at large, administrators and various constituent groups to develop policies.

6.0 **Broad Guidelines for the School District** The Board recognizes its responsibility to provide broad guidelines for the school district, including the establishment of specific oversight procedures, development and implementation of standards of accountability, and development of long-range plans to meet future needs.

6.1 **Record Annual Review** The procedures required by the previous sections of this policy are all intended to meet these ends. A record shall be kept by the President of the Board of all suggestions made under the previous sections by local school

improvement councils, faculty senates, and the community at large regarding broad guidelines for oversight procedures, standards of accountability, and planning for future needs. At least annually, the record shall be considered by the Board to identify suggestions worthy of further consideration.

6.2 Existing Policies_Additionally, the Board confirms that any of its existing policies and resolutions regarding the school district's vision, mission, planning procedures, and goals shall, until withdrawn or amended, be interpreted and applied as specific oversight procedures, standards of accountability, and long range plans to meet future needs.

7.0 Use of School Based Accreditation and Performance Data To meet the education goals of the state of West Virginia and such other goals as the Board may establish, the Board shall use school-based accreditation and performance data provided by the State Board of Education, as well as other available data, in Board decision making. To that end:

7.1 State Goals The Superintendent shall compile and share with the Board at least annually, the education goals of the State of West Virginia.

7.2 Report Cards **The Board will annually devote a portion of a board meeting to discuss individual school report card results**, results of the district report card and all other information and findings related to performance-based accreditation of relevance to the district prior to the onset of the new school year.

7.3 **Academic Performance Assessment The Board will annually devote an entire board meeting to discuss the results of the WESTEST Scores per each individual county school prior to October 1, 2012.**

8.0 Policy Review That Board shall at least annually, before August 1, review the provisions of this policy and make such amendments as the Board finds necessary to effectuate the requirements of West Virginia Code 18-5-14.

9.0 Filing with the WV State Board of Education No later than August 1, 2012, the Superintendent shall file with the State Board of Education a copy of this policy.

9.1 Modifications: If this policy is modified, the Superintendent shall promptly file with the WV State Board of Education a copy of this policy, as modified.

REFERENCE: WVC 18-5-14

Adopted: 4/5/99

Revised: 11/17/03, 7/2/12