

St. Regis School Board Policies

INTRODUCTION TO POLICY MANUAL

Basic Purpose of the Policy Manual

The policy-making function of the Board is clearly spelled out in the Montana School Accreditation Standards, which state:

Each school district shall formulate a written, comprehensive philosophy of education which reflects the needs of students

Each school district shall also formulate a statement of specific objectives which describes how its schools will meet educational needs in accordance with the district=s philosophy

Each school district shall have written policies which delineate the responsibilities of the board, the superintendent and personnel employed by the school district

Policies can be thought of as District laws which set standards and provide the framework for decisions made by both the trustees and the administration. The American Association of School Administrators lists the following values which result from clearly written policy statements:

- They help clarify responsibilities.
- They help promote more consistent decisions.
- They provide continuity of action.
- They save the Board time, money, and effort.
- They help improve public relations.
- They help reduce pressures on the Board.
- They help reduce criticism of Board action.
- They give the Board a sense of direction.
- They help facilitate orderly review of Board practices.
- They ensure a better-informed Board and staff.

The Board has attempted to develop policies using clear, definitive, and specific (but not detailed) language.