

# Washington West Supervisory Union Model Policy

## Policy A1

### A1: THE ROLE OF POLICY

#### Policy

The Boards adopt policies to outline direction and goals for the successful consistent and efficient operation of the member district schools of the Washington West Supervisory Union: Fayston Elementary School, Harwood Union High School, Moretown Elementary School, Waitsfield Elementary School, Warren Elementary School, and the Waterbury/Duxbury Union School District (Crossett Brook Middle School and Thatcher Brook Primary School) through the adoption of policies.

#### Background

Policy development is a board's most important responsibility and is specified in 16 V.S.A. §563(1). Policies of the member district schools will be in compliance with Vermont law and federal statutes as well as state and federal regulations. These policies will also reflect and be consistent with educational objectives, procedures, and practices which are generally accepted in the public education field.

#### Definitions

Policies describe the direction the Boards, with input from their communities, have outlined for the member district schools. They provide a guide for action by the administration. Policies should serve, also, to inform and guide all people interested in or connected with the member district schools.

Policies define a desired outcome; they may include why and how much and should always indicate the person responsible for implementing the policy. Policies should be broad enough to indicate a course of action for the administration to follow in meeting most situations; narrow enough to give clear guidance.

Procedures (also referred to as rules or regulations) are the specific directions that indicate exactly how school personnel and others will carry out the policies adopted by the member district school boards. Procedures should be developed by school administrators and may be reviewed by the boards. They may change more frequently than the underlying policy and do not require adoption by the Boards.

Date Warned: 01.20.11  
Date Adopted: FES: 02.15.11; HUHS: 02.16.11; MES: 02.01.11; W-D: 02.08.11; WES: 02.14.11; WS: 02.10.11  
Legal Reference(s): 16 V.S.A. §563 (1) (Powers of school boards)  
Cross Reference: Policy Development and Adoption (A2)  
Policy Dissemination, Administration & Review (A3)

Revised 08/25/2010