

Fresno Unified Board Bylaw (BB) 9310

Board Policies

The Governing Board shall adopt written policies for actions that will be taken in the district, clarify roles and responsibilities of the Board and Superintendent, and communicate Board philosophy and positions to students, staff, parents/guardians, and the community. The Board shall ensure that district policies align with the district's vision, and goals, promote student learning and achievement, provide for consistent and fair treatment of students and staff, and proactively address equity and the provision of equal access to opportunities for all students.

cf. 2210 - Administrative Leeway in Absence of Board Policy

The Board recognizes the importance of maintaining a policy manual that is up to date and reflects the mandates of law. Board policies are binding on the district to the extent that they do not conflict with federal or state law and are consistent with the district's collective bargaining agreements. No Board policy, bylaw, or administrative regulation, or any portion thereof, shall be operative if it is found to be in conflict with applicable federal or state law or regulations or court decisions. If any portion of a policy is found to be invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions of the policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide for the continuous orderly review of existing policies at a time allocated for this purpose on the agenda of regular Board meetings.

The Board shall review certain policies annually, as required by Education Code 35160.5. If no revisions are deemed necessary, the Board minutes shall nevertheless indicate that the review was conducted. Other policies shall be monitored and reviewed as specified in the policy itself or as needed to reflect changes in law or district circumstances.

(cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)

(cf. 5121 - Examination And Grading)

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Cocurricular Activities)

Policy Development and Adoption Process

The district's policy development process shall include the following basic steps:

1. The Board and/or Superintendent or designee shall identify the need for a new policy or revision(s) of an existing policy. The need may arise from a change(s) in law, a new district vision statement, new goals in the local control and accountability plan, educational research or trends, an incident that has arisen in the district, or a recommendation or request from staff, a parent/guardian, or other interested person.
2. As needed, the Superintendent or designee shall gather fiscal data, staff and public input, related district policies, sample policies from the California School Boards Association or other organizations or agencies, and other useful information and data to fully inform the Board about a particular issue.
3. The Board may hold discussions during a public Board meeting to gain an understanding of the issue and provide initial direction to the Superintendent or designee. The discussion may include, but not be limited to, community expectations, staff recommendations, and the expected impact of the policy on student learning and well-being, equity, governance, and the district's fiscal resources and operational efficiency.
4. The Board or Superintendent may request that legal counsel review the draft policy as appropriate.

5. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and present a draft policy for a first reading at a public Board meeting. At its second reading, the Board may take action on the proposed policy. The Board may waive the second reading or may require additional reading if necessary.

Board Bylaws

The Board shall prescribe and enforce rules for its own governance consistent with state law and regulations. (Education Code 35010)

Bylaws governing Board operations may be developed, adopted, and amended following the same procedures as those used for the adoption or amendment of Board policy.

Administrative Regulations

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for developing and enforcing administrative regulations for the operation of the district. Administrative regulations shall be consistent with law and Board policy and shall be designed to promote the achievement of district goals and objectives. Administrative regulations may describe specific actions to be taken, roles and responsibilities of staff, timelines, and/or other provisions. The Superintendent or designee may also develop procedures manuals, handbooks, or other guides to carry out the intent of Board policy.

When Board policies are amended, the Superintendent or designee shall review corresponding administrative regulations to ensure that they conform to the intent of the revised policy. In case of conflict between administrative regulation and Board policy, policy shall prevail.

Access to Policies

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all district employees and the public have access to an up-to-date district policy manual. Policies shall be posted on the district's website .

As necessary, the Superintendent or designee shall notify staff, parents/guardians, students, and others whenever a policy that affects them is adopted or revised.

Fresno Unified School District prohibits discrimination, harassment (including sexual harassment), intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, ancestry, age (40 and above), religious creed, religion, political belief or affiliation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, mental or physical disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy or parental status, childbirth, breastfeeding/lactation status, medical condition, military and veteran status, or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or any other basis protected by law or regulation, in its educational program(s) or employment.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.5 Intradistrict open enrollment

35163 Official actions, minutes, and journal

35164 Actions by majority vote

Bylaw FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: September 26, 1991 Fresno, California

revised: May 11, 1995

revised: June 22, 1995

reviewed: January 12, 2000

revised: August 8, 2023

Policy Section: 9000 Bylaws