ELKKHORN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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(November 13, 2006)

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Policy 101

Legal Status of the School District

Nebraska law authorizes the creation of public schools known as the Common Schools System. As part of the Common Schools System, this school district is a school corporation created and organized under Nebraska law. This school district shall be known as the Elkhorn Public Schools, School District #10, Douglas County. This district possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes.

The school district is located in Douglas County, and its affairs are conducted by elected school officials, the Elkhorn Public Schools, School District #10, Douglas County, Board of Education. This school district has local control over school matters in the territory of the school district as outlined by the applicable state statutes.

Legal Reference: Nebraska Constitution, Art. VII, Section 1, 2
Neb. Statutes 79-405 and 79-501 et seq.
Languis vs. DeBoer, 181 Neb 36 (1966)

Cross Reference: 201.01 Board Powers and Responsibilities

Approved: Feb. 10, 1992
Revised: February 12, 1996
Revised: February 14, 2005

Policy 102

Educational Philosophy of the School District

The Elkhorn Public Schools, acting through its School Board, is dedicated to promoting an equal opportunity for a quality public education to its students within the limitations of the school district's ability and willingness to furnish financial support. The curriculum of the district is based on state and local standards of student learning and is comprehensive, coordinated and sequential. All curriculum areas shall draw upon research, best practice and reputable theory to provide the foundation for an instructional program focused on achievement and providing for the diverse learning needs of all students. Curriculum and instruction help students develop content and skill mastery, analytical thinking, problem solving, work ethic, creativity and respect for diversity.

The priority at all times is student learning particularly as established by state and local educational standards. To this end the School Board shall periodically develop and adopt a district mission statement, governing principles and strategic policy statements to guide the dedication of district resources toward a constant improvement of student learning.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-526
79-701
NDE Rule 10

Reference: District Strategic Plan, Adopted June 10, 2002

Cross Reference:
103 Equal Educational Opportunity
104 Educational and Operational Planning
205 School Board Policy Process
601 Goals and Objectives of Instructional Plan
603 Curriculum Development

Approved: February 14, 2005

Policy 103

Equal Educational Opportunity

The board will not discriminate in its educational activities on the basis of: race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or marital status.

The board is committed to the policy that no otherwise qualified person will be excluded from educational activities on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, national origin, or disability. Further, the board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment.

Harassment or discriminatory behavior that denies civil rights or access to equal educational opportunities includes comments, name-calling, physical conduct or other expressive behavior directed at an individual or group that intentionally demeans the race, color, religion, national origin, sex or disability of the individual or individuals or creates an intimidating hostile or demeaning environment for education.

Legal Reference:	Neb. Statute	79-1110-1167, 2114-2124
	20 U.S.C.	1221 et seq., 1681 et seq., 1701 et seq.
	29 U.S.C.	794
	42 U.S.C.	12101 et seq.
	28 C.F.R.	Pt. 35.1
	34 C.F.R.	Pt. 100
	34 C.F.R.	Pt. 104
	34 C.F.R.	Pt. 106
Cross Reference:	102	Educational Philosophy of the District
	402.01	Equal Employment Opportunity
	502	Objectives for Equal Educational Opportunities for Students

Approved: October 12, 1992
Revised: December 11, 1995
Revised: February 14, 2005

Policy 104

Educational and Operational Planning

The board shall be concerned with both short and long-term planning to establish and meet goals regarding desired levels of student performance. The board shall meet at least once each school year to identify district goals within the Strategic Plan and School Improvement Process and to assess progress on the previous year's goals. Additionally, the district shall maintain a Facilities Master Plan to guide the board in providing school facilities that enhance learning environments for students.

Strategic Plan - At least every four years the superintendent shall conduct an in-depth needs assessment, soliciting information from businesses, community members, higher education members, parents and faculty regarding their expectations for adequate student preparation. One purpose of this assessment is to assist the board in developing and evaluating a mission statement and belief statements about how the district will operate to support student learning. The second purpose of this assessment is to determine the areas of student performance and the areas of district operations that are judged to be most crucial in meeting district student learning goals.

School Improvement Process - The superintendent or designee shall ensure that a district-wide, building-based school improvement process is implemented. Such process will seek to promote quality learning for all students and to address equity and accountability issues. The school improvement process will include a periodic review by visiting educators who may provide consultation to the district for continued improvement of student learning.

Facilities Master Plan - The superintendent or designee will be responsible for the development, maintenance and updating of a facilities master plan. The facilities master plan will incorporate such things as population projections, enrollment projections, site acquisition needs, school plant placement, and determination of financial resources, requirements and availability for providing the necessary facilities. The facilities master plan will include evaluations of existing facilities in meeting education program goals.

Legal Reference:	Neb. Statutes 79-506, 79-701-2, 79-729, 79-1301 NDE Rule 10	
Cross Reference:	102	Educational Philosophy of the District
	201.01	Board Powers and Responsibilities
	902.01	Buildings and Sites Long Range Planning

Adopted: February 14, 2005

Policy 104.01

Annual School Census

The board directs the superintendent to establish a permanent, continuing census of school children in the district. A list of the names of district taxpayers and all children from birth through twenty years shall be maintained at the superintendent's office.

Legal Reference:	Neb. Statute 79-524, 79-578	
Cross Reference:	607.01	Class Size -Class Grouping
	1002	District Annual Report

Approved: September 14, 1992
Revised: February 14, 2005