

Book	Policy Manual
Section	Special Update - Act 20 - Feb. 2025
Title	Overview
Code	1 -
Status	From Neola

WISCONSIN OVERVIEW AND COMMENTS

Special Update - Act 20 February 2025

All production related materials and questions should be directed to the Coshocton Office at 632 Main Street, Coshocton, Ohio 43812 (phone 800-407-5815, fax 740-622-2557). Billing questions should be directed to the Stow Office at 3914 Clock Pointe Trail, Suite 103, Stow, Ohio 44224 (phone 330-926-0514, fax 330-926-0525).

Please make any revisions on the BoardDocs software using the instructions provided to you. You may direct questions related to content to your Neola Associate. Questions regarding the software should be directed to the BoardDocs help desk staff.

If a District chooses not to adopt a policy or administrative guideline, the District is still obligated to follow applicable Federal and State laws relating to that topic.

The proposed new, revised, and replacement policies, administrative guidelines and forms included in this update have been thoroughly prepared and reviewed by Neola's legal counsel for statutory compliance. If you make changes, or substitute in its entirety policies or other materials of your own drafting, those materials should be reviewed by your legal counsel to verify compliance. Neola does not review district-specific edits to update materials or District-specific policies for statutory compliance.

If a policy or guideline is marked as a revision, the changes have been marked in bold (to add material) and crossed out (to delete material). As you review a revised policy or guideline, you may choose to accept one, many or all of the changes provided. If a policy or guideline is marked as a replacement, that means there have been enough changes made that justify a complete, clean replacement copy. As you review a replacement policy or guideline, you should also check the materials you have in your current policy or guideline to see if there is some specific wording you want included in the replacement policy. If so, a copy of any wording to be added and where it should be inserted should be forwarded with the replacement policy or guideline when it is returned to the Coshocton office for processing.

If the District authors language and adds it to a policy template or deletes content that is not marked as a choice in the policy template, then these actions will constitute District-specific edits.

Policies that are to be deleted from the policy manual require Board action to rescind the policy.

Your Neola Associate will contact you in the near future to schedule an appointment to review this update and ensure you are current on this and previous updates.

If you are not an administrative guidelines client, you did not receive those materials in this packet. Contact your Associate for more information about becoming an administrative guidelines client.

Processing Update Materials

Revisions to your policies and administrative guidelines should be made on the BoardDocs software using the instructions provided to you.

District-Specific Material

If the District chooses, during any step of the Update process, to incorporate District-specific material into a new policy or guideline that has been proposed or to insert District-specific material into a current policy or guideline for which revisions have been proposed in an update issued by Neola, then the District agrees to hold Neola harmless for those District-specific edits and acknowledges that Neola's warranty for legal challenges to that District-specific language in that policy or guideline will not be in effect. In addition, Neola retains ownership of the text from the original policy template that remains in a policy to which District-specific material has been added. District-specific materials include the following:

1. Materials from the District's existing materials that the District requests be incorporated during the drafting process;
2. New materials that the District develops in their entirety and exclusive of Neola; and
3. Revisions or deletions that substantively depart from Neola's templates.

Further, Neola does not recommend the use or incorporation of District-specific materials. Neola will, at the request of the District, incorporate District-specific materials into the licensed materials, with the implicit understanding that the District bears all risks associated with the District's decision to request that such District-specific materials be incorporated. Neola reserves the right to, but is not obligated to, advise the District to seek its own legal review of District-specific materials.

Bylaws & Policies

Policy 5411 – Third Grade Promotion and Retention: At Risk Students (New)

In 2023, Wisconsin enacted Act 20 to strengthen early literacy efforts. As part of this law, school districts must implement a policy for promoting students from third to fourth grade, following the model provided by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Neola, with legal guidance, has developed a policy in compliance with Act 20 and the DPI model. While districts are required to adopt this policy by July 1, 2025, enforcement can be delayed until September 1, 2027.

Adopting this policy is required to maintain statutory compliance.