

## POLICY AND SCHOOL BOARDS

The following is the order in which school district policies are developed and implemented (Highest order to lowest order):

1. Federal Law. Federal law is the highest law of the land. Example: Elementary Secondary Education Act formerly known as The No Child Left Behind Education Act. Public Law 94-142 began Special Education.
2. State Law. Laws enacted by the State Board of Education and the Legislature. It is implemented and compliance monitored by the Oregon Department of Education. Example: Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR). Laws about teaching sex education and not allowing children grades K-5 to be expelled.
3. City and County Laws, Ordinances and Regulations. These consist of City and County Ordinances enforceable by law enforcement. Ex: Laws from City of Portland govern that when you change a school from K-5 to K-8, you must have a community hearing and get approval from the City. Construction rules apply to school districts. County examples are ordinances ruling transportation, housing, mental health services and animal restrictions all affect schools.
4. School Board Policy. Developed by the Oregon School Boards Association in conjunction with attorneys and legal experts, these policies are available to local school districts for adoption. Salem Keizer and PPS create their own. These are based on points of law created in the Legislature and through the State Board of Education actions. School boards adopt these policies as part of their role in school district governance.
5. School Board Policies. Administrative Regulations. Created by the school district Superintendent and enforced by the Superintendent, these require no board approval. They are typically developed as a road map to carry out board policy.
6. Internal School Policies. These are procedural and created by school principals. They exist in individual schools and are enforceable by the principal. They must meet all of the standards listed in 1-5 and be in accordance with state and federal laws. They must meet all minimum required standards. Example: Diplomas. While the Oregon Diploma is required of all districts, schools may create additional diplomas with additional requirements.