



# Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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**TO: Members, Board of Education  
Dr. Albert Roberts, Superintendent**

**FROM: Policy Committee – James Gates, Amy Felton and Chris Jасulca**

**RE: First reading of sections five through eight of the policy manual**

**DATE: February 26, 2013**

During its meeting on February 12, 2013, the Board of Education reviewed sections one through four of the district's new policy manual; and submitted its comments, questions and feedback about the policies in those sections to the policy committee. The board's comments, questions and feedback for each section, as well as the responses from the committee, can be accessed by visiting <http://www.op97.org/board-of-education/documents/Responsestoquestions-sectionsonetofour.pdf>.

Board members were also encouraged during that meeting to send any initial comments, questions or suggested revisions for sections five through eight of the manual to the policy committee by February 19, 2013 in an effort to help expedite the review of those sections this evening. The committee will begin this review session by answering the questions we received in advance of the meeting; and then address any other comments, questions and feedback provided by the board during the course of tonight's discussion. The responses to the questions about the policies in sections five through eight of the manual will be typed up and made available to the general public via the district's website.

Please note, the initial draft of the manual that we received on July 9, 2012 contained two versions of policy 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy)—the current version of the district's attendance policy and the new version from PRESS. After reviewing both versions, the policy committee decided to include the one from PRESS in the final draft of the manual that was presented to the board on January 22, 2012. This recommendation was sent via e-mail to PRESS on November 9, 2012. However, on February 20, 2013, we discovered that the district's version of the policy was the one that had been included in the final draft copy. We immediately contacted PRESS about the issue, and requested that the company send us its version of the policy so we could share it with the board and general public as soon as possible. PRESS apologized for the oversight and complied with our request. The PRESS version of policy 7:70 was e-mailed to the board on February 20, was posted on the district website and is attached to this memorandum.

Below is an updated version of the timeline the policy committee created for the board's review and approval of the new policy manual.

- Board members review/discuss sections five through eight of the manual tonight; discussion will include responses to the questions submitted to the policy committee prior to the meeting.
- \*Board members approve the manual during their meeting on March 19, 2013.

\*If the board determines it needs to conduct one final review of the manual prior to approving it, the committee recommends performing that review during the meeting on March 19, 2013. That would mean board approval of the manual would take place at its meeting on April 9, 2013.

Members of the general public can still access the entire manual on the district website by visiting [http://www.op97.org/news/Policy-Manual.cfm?grp\\_id=6945](http://www.op97.org/news/Policy-Manual.cfm?grp_id=6945); and can submit their own comments or questions via e-mail to [d97feedback@op97.org](mailto:d97feedback@op97.org).