




NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Robyn Burke, President
Members of the School Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Chief School Administrator 

FROM: Chelsie Overby, Board Secretary

DATE: November 11, 2022

SUBJECT: Board Policy Update: Second Reading
BP 1312.2, 5137, 5141.41, 5147, 6141.3

Memo No: SB23-084
(Action Item)

NSBSD Policy Manual:

Board Bylaw 9311, Board Policies:...Prior to adoption, policies shall normally be given two readings by the Board. At its second reading, the policy may be adopted by a majority vote of all members of the Board.

Issue Summary:

The Board approved the revisions recommended by the Association of Alaska School Boards through the first reading held during the October 13, 2022 Regular Meeting. These policies have incorporated the revisions for a clean version of the policy for its second reading and upon Board approval, its adoption.

Background:

Board Policy 1312.2, Public Complaints Concerning Instructional Material, revision reflects that instructional materials should be free from cultural biases or perspectives that promote discrimination or disparity. This ensures instructional materials should be culturally responsive and support students' cultural identity and knowledge and clarifies the complaint process regarding instructional material.

Board Policy 5137, Positive School Climate, revision identifies the role of a positive school climate in student success, requiring staff maintain such a climate, and identifying cultural responsiveness, social and emotional supports, and trauma informed practices, among others, as critical components of a positive school climate. Additional language includes encouraging annual review of school climate and supporting professional development.

Board Policy 5141.41, Sexual Abuse, Sexual Assault and Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention, revision establishes training programs for students on education relating to: sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention for students in kindergarten through grade 12; and dating violence and abuse in grades seven through 12. Additional language is provided for parent notices of such information.

Board Policy 5147, Dropout Prevention, revision ensures the district will analyze dropout data to identify and correct any disproportionality and to prevent dropout of students who have experienced trauma utilizing trauma-informed and evidence-based approaches.

Board Policy 6141.3, Culturally Responsive Education, revision recognizes Alaska's indigenous peoples and benefit of culturally responsive education for improvement of student outcomes.

Additionally, it directs the Superintendent to develop guidance on how to best serve the student population while considering cultural needs, including language instruction and access to cultural content.

Proposed Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the second reading of: Board Policy 1312.2, Public Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials; Board Policy 5137, Positive School Climate; Board Policy 5141.41, Sexual Abuse, Sexual Assault and Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention; Board Policy 5147, Dropout Prevention; and Board Policy 6141.3, Culturally Responsive Education as described in this memo SB23-084 and attachments.”

Motion by_____ Seconded by_____

Advisory Vote_____ Vote_____