

Board of Education

ACTION

TITLE: Consider Approval of Student Handbook Changes for 2019-2020

DATE: July 1, 2019

RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR: Darian Layes
Executive Director of Student Services

BACKGROUND/CONSIDERATIONS:

On May 20, the Board approved on second reading new student policies based on the Arkansas School Board Association model policies. The District Handbook Committee then met on June 4 and developed the attached twelve recommendations for handbook changes to ensure that the 2019-2020 handbook is aligned with the new student policies. The changes recommended by the handbook committee are presented here in redlined documents showing edits and changes from the previous year's handbook.

Approval of a handbook that is aligned with the new student policies is an important milestone. Due to several changes made to education law in Arkansas during the most recent legislative session, additional work will need to be done on the handbook over the next several months. In order to adapt to these changes, additional recommendations for policy updates and corresponding changes to the handbook will be prepared for the consideration of the Board. ASBA model policies designed to address these changes have recently become available. Because the handbook is now distributed electronically, future updates to it can also be posted for students and families as they are completed and approved. A notice that additional changes are expected to the handbook later this year is included in the attached document. Paper copies will also continue to be made available at campuses for distribution to families who request them.

RECOMMENDATION:

The administration recommends the handbook changes attached be approved for inclusion in the 2019-20 District Handbook.

If the Board agrees, the motion would read:

Move to approve the attached changes to the 2019- FSPS District Handbook.