

Approval of Update 99 Local Policies -2nd Reading May 13, 2014

SUMMARY:

Update 99 represents the second of two post-legislative updates, focusing primarily on incorporating changes in law from the 83rd Legislative Session that were not included in Update 98 and recent amendments to the Administrative Code as a result of the recent legislation. Major topics include district legal counsel, safety programs, graduation, credit by examination, and student discrimination and harassment.

Local policies included in Update 99:

- BDD(LOCAL): BOARD INTERNAL ORGANIZATION - ATTORNEY
- BP(LOCAL): ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS
- CK(LOCAL): SAFETY PROGRAM/RISK MANAGEMENT
- EHDC(LOCAL): ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EARNING CREDIT - CREDIT BY EXAMINATION WITHOUT PRIOR INSTRUCTION
- FFH(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION

Policies Being Deleted:

- CFEA(LOCAL): PAYROLL PROCEDURES - SALARY DEDUCTIONS AND REDUCTIONS
- DAC(LOCAL): EMPLOYMENT OBJECTIVES - OBJECTIVE CRITERIA FOR PERSONNEL DECISIONS
- FFF(LOCAL): STUDENT WELFARE - STUDENT SAFETY

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

The Board discussed TASB Update 99 policy revisions at the March 25, 2014 and first reading approval on the April 22, 2014 board meeting.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Update 99 includes 25 legal and 8 local policies of which 3 are recommended for deletion.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

The district must have school policies that are consistent with current laws and appropriately communicate local policy issues. Policies are classified as either "Legal" or "Local" in design. A "Legal" policy is a statement of existing law or of binding legal decisions and as such do not require Board approval. Local policies are decisions made at the local level that reflect district decisions and practices and do require approval. Legal policies are always included in updates so local policy development occurs within the context of binding law.

BENEFIT OF ACTION:

To allow the Board to evaluate and ensure that these policies reflect the practices of the District.

PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:

Because the law requires districts to adopt a local policy so quickly, districts are allowed to implement the process for emergency adoption with one reading.

ALTERNATIVES:

The following options are available to the Board:

- continue to study the policy
- modify the existing language
- approve policies as written and submitted by TASB

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve TASB Update 99 local policies on second reading as presented.

PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:

James K. Wilson III, Superintendent
Randy Stout, DISD Legal Advisor

ATTACHMENT:

TASB Update 99 Local Policies