
BACKGROUND

Policy development is a key responsibility of the Board. Policies constitute the will of the Board and provide clear direction for the Division. Policies also serve as sources of information to all stakeholders. Adoption of new Board policies and revision of existing policies is the responsibility of the Board.

Policy development or revision may be undertaken for various reasons that include changes in legislation, public consultation, needs assessment, policy evaluation, or at the request of a community member or trustee.

The Board believes that policies should reflect the values and interests of RVS' stakeholders and serve the Board's vision and purpose.

GUIDELINES

1. The Board shall be guided in its approach to policy development by adhering to the requirements to provide public education in compliance with the *Education Act* and other relevant legislation.
2. Any RVS trustee or RVS community member may initiate proposals for new policies or changes to existing policies. Proposals are to be submitted to the Board Chair for the Board Planning Committee's consideration by using RVS Policy Development-Revision form BP10/17. The initiator will be informed of the decision of the Board Planning Committee.
3. An RVS trustee, in any regular Board meeting, may move to direct the development of a policy and/or revise an existing policy. Motions passed in this manner will be referred to the Policy Committee.
4. The Policy Committee shall review all Board policies at least once during the term of the elected trustees and may bring forward policy revisions and/or a new policy for the Board's consideration.
5. The Superintendent will alert the Policy Committee to legislative changes affecting Board policy and present proposed new policy and/or revisions to the Policy Committee.
6. The Superintendent shall arrange for all Board policies and subsequent revisions to be posted on the Division's website, in a timely manner, for staff and public access.
7. In the absence of existing policy, the Board may make decisions, by resolution, on matters affecting the administration, management and operation of the Division.

Legal Reference:

- Section 33, 51, 52, 53, 222 Education Act
- Board Procedures Regulation