

Acquainting Yourself with Board Policy

Webinar Series 2024/2025

March 4, 2025

Presented by:
Angela L. Irwin, Owner
AirWin Educational
Services, LLC

Importance of Board Policy



- Provides direction and consistency
- Reduces risk and ensures compliance
- Promotes good governance

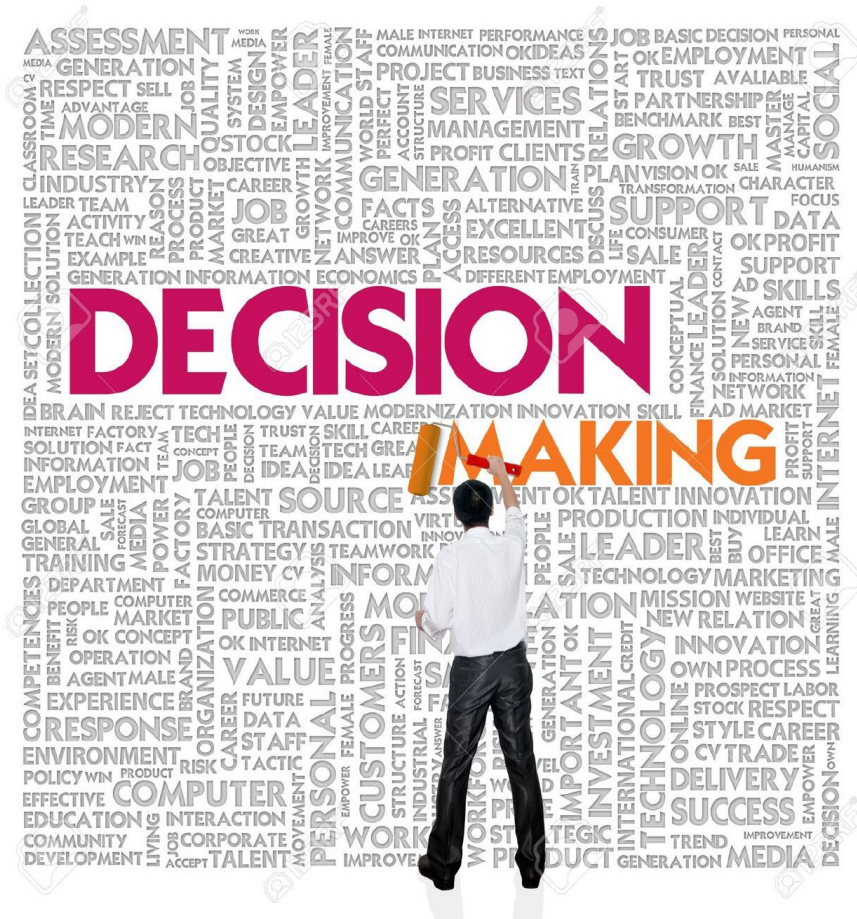
Best Way to Acquaint Yourself



- Request a copy of board policy manual
- Start with the table of contents
- If new to board, focus on key areas (i.e. financial oversight, board operations, program, etc.)
- Look for summaries and/or “cheat sheets” for key policies
- Understand “best practice” and “legally required” policy selection(s)

Applying Board Policy to Decision-Making

- Thoroughly review board meeting packet(s)
- Ensure understanding of board policy language
- Consider each agenda item and its “policy implications”
- Assume preparedness to deliberate on policy matters at board meetings



Effective Board Policy Practices



- Be sure policies are clear and concise
- Ensure regular review and updating
- Become more familiar with policy language through communication and/or training programs

Executing Policy Direction



- Consult policy when decision-making is or seems unclear
- Ensure access to policy language during board meetings
- Ensure school leadership is executing on policy(ies) through clear operational guidelines
- Be aware of policy service provider and reach out with questions, accordingly

Potential Pitfalls Alert



ALERT
DANGEROUS!

- Unclear or non-specific language
- Outdated policies
- Inconsistent language with legal requirements
- Not reviewed or updated regularly
- Lack of enforcement
- Lack of communication/training

Conclusion Quote .

..

“Rules, regulations (and policy) do not make a person correct – they only make them consistent.”

Calvin Coolidge



THANK YOU!



AirWin Educational Services LLC

4521 Henry Drive
Beaverton, MI 48612
(989) 239-7555
angela@airwinllc.com