ANDERSON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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Appendix D

Board Policies to Support School Flexibility

0120 - POWERS AND PHILOSOPHY

0121 Board Authority

The supervision of this Corporation shall be conducted by the Board, hereinafter sometimes referred to as the "Board", which is constituted and is governed by the laws of the State of Indiana.

0122 Board Powers

The Board shall be a body corporate, and, as such, capable of suing and being sued, contracting and being contracted with, acquiring, holding, possessing and disposing of real and personal property, and taking and holding in trust for the use and benefit of the Corporation, any grant or devise of land and any donation or bequest of money or other personal property.

The power of this Board extends to those matters expressly granted by statute or those matters which may be necessarily implied from such powers specifically delegated as being necessary to carry them out.

The Board shall retain the power to act, through written policies, in situations in which there is no action required by statute nor by statutory prohibition to act.

The Board shall have the management and control of all facilities and programs in the Corporation and the employees, students, and other persons entering upon its premises.

I.C. 20-23-4, 20-26-3, 20-26-5-4, 20-26-5-5

0123 Philosophy of the Board

A Board is a legal entity for providing a system of public education within a geographic area of the State of Indiana. The system was created by, and is governed by, State statutes.

The Board has the dual responsibility for implementing legal requirements pertaining to public education and for meeting the desires of the citizens. While the Board has an obligation to determine and assess citizen desires, it is understood that when individuals are elected or appointed to represent citizens in the conduct of specified educational programs, they, at the same time, are endowed with the authority to exercise their best judgment in determining policies, making decisions, and approving procedures for carrying out the responsibility.

The Board declares and, thereby, reaffirms its intent to:

A. maintain two-way communications with citizens of the Corporation. The Board shall keep them informed of the progress and problems of the School Corporation, and the citizens shall be urged to bring their aspirations and concerns about the Corporation and its schools to the attention of this body.

B. establish policies and make decisions on the basis of declared educational philosophy and goals.

C. act as a truly representative body for citizens in all matters related to programs and operations. The Board recognizes that ultimate responsibility for public education rests with the State, but the Board has been assigned specific authority through statute, and the Board shall not relinquish or fail to exercise that authority.

2370 - EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

The School Board recognizes the need to provide alternative means by which students achieve the goals of the Corporation.

An optional plan to meet the recognized educational needs of a student shall be approved by the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall prepare a plan of educational options for use in meeting special needs. Any additional educational options will be presented to the Board for approval.

Such options may include, but not be limited to, tutorial programs, alternative school programs, independent study, correspondence courses, educational travel, mentorship programs, summer school, early college entrance, etc.

Credit will be granted to the student upon successful completion of the program.

Such credit shall be placed on the student transcript. The amount of credit counting toward graduation shall comply with the Corporation graduation requirements.

511 I.A.C. 6-7-7

2210 - CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The School Board recognizes its responsibility for the quality of the educational program of the schools. To this end, the curriculum shall be developed, evaluated, and adopted on a continuing basis and in accordance with a plan for curriculum growth established by the Superintendent.

For purposes of this policy, curriculum shall be defined as:

A. the courses of study, subjects, classes, and organized activities provided by the school;

B. all the planned activities of the schools, including formal classroom instruction and out-of-class activity, both individual and group;

C. the planned interaction of students with instructional staff, content, materials, resources, and procedures for evaluating the attainment of educational objectives;

D. the plan for learning necessary to accomplish the educational goals of the Corporation;

E. all the planned activities of the schools, including formal classroom instruction and out-of-class activity, both individual and group, necessary to accomplish the educational goals of the Corporation.

The Board directs that the curriculum of this Corporation will:

A. provide instruction in courses required by statute and the State Department of Education regulations necessary for P.L. 221

B. be consistent with the Corporation's Constitution and result in their achievement;

C. allow for the development of individual talents and interests as well as recognize that learning styles of students may differ;

D. provide for continuous and cumulative learning through effective articulation at all school and grade levels;

E. utilize a variety of learning resources to accomplish the educational goals;

F. encourage students to utilize guidance and counseling in their academic and career planning.

As educational leader of the Corporation, the Superintendent shall be responsible to the Board for the development and evaluation of curriculum and preparation of courses of study. S/He shall establish administrative guidelines for curriculum which ensure proper development, implementation, and evaluation.

The Superintendent shall make progress reports to the Board periodically.

The Superintendent may conduct such innovative programs as are deemed to be necessary to the continuing growth of the instructional program.

The Superintendent shall report to the Board each innovative program, along with its objectives, evaluative criteria, and costs.

Unless the Board disapproves, the Superintendent may proceed to conduct the program.

The Board directs the Superintendent to pursue actively State and Federal aid in support of research activities in this Corporation.

I.C. 20-18-2-9
511 IAC 6-2-1 et seq.

2210A - CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The Corporation's curriculum development will be managed through the leadership of a Curriculum Committee.

A. The Curriculum Committee will be a standing committee. The people on this committee may change from time-to-time, but each of the areas of membership must be represented at all times.

B. Responsibilities

1. Continually evaluate selected areas of the Corporation's curriculum.
2. Establish priority areas for revision.
3. Establish working committees in the selected areas.
4. Maintain liaison with working committees to determine progress and assist with possible problems.
5. Develop or advise on in-service programs and seminars needed to strengthen and enrich the Corporation's program.

8210 - SCHOOL CALENDAR

The School Board recognizes that the preparation of a calendar for the instructional program of the schools is necessary for orderly educational planning and for the efficient operation of the Corporation.

The total number of days when the schools will be in session for instructional purposes shall be in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement, and for purposes of receiving State school aid, such days will number no fewer than 180.

All days lost due to snow, fire, epidemics, health conditions, etc. cannot be counted as a part of the minimum days of instruction for State aid and must be made up unless a waiver is obtained from the State Department of Education.

The Superintendent shall submit to the State Department of Education the total number of actual instructional days no later than June 15th of each year.

I.C. 20-30-2-1,6, 20-18-2-17
511 IAC 6-2-1.1(j)

2610 - EVALUATION OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

The School Board directs the Superintendent to develop and implement a systematic plan for the continuous evaluation of the educational program against the educational goals established by this Board. To this end, s/he shall employ such tests and methods as may be indicated by sound professional judgment. Wherever possible, the assessment program shall follow evaluation administrative guidelines set forth in the courses of study and course guides.

The Superintendent shall maintain a calendar of assessment activities and shall make periodic evaluation reports to the Board. Findings of the assessment program may be used to evaluate the progress of students and:

A. the effectiveness of the curriculum;

B. the effectiveness of staff members;

C. the effectiveness of the school/delivery system.

The Superintendent shall recommend improvements in the educational program annually, based on the evaluation of the Corporation's program.

The Board reserves the right to employ experts from outside the School Corporation to serve in the evaluation process.

The Board will annually make available to the public the progress of the student body toward the goals of the Corporation.

Assessment results obtained under this policy shall not be used for comparison purposes except as required by statute and State Department of Education administrative guidelines or internally, as authorized by the Superintendent or Board.

511 IAC 5, 511 IAC 6-2-1

2440 - SUMMER SCHOOL

The School Board may conduct a summer program of academic instruction, State-mandated testing and assessments remediation, and/or recreational activities at the K-12 levels for resident students of this Corporation, and such other students as the Board may admit.

Summer school instruction may be designed to provide opportunities for students to:

A. improve a poor grade;

B. improve learning skills;

C. make up a failed course;

D. enrich a scholastic program;

E. explore new academic areas.

The Board shall annually approve a summer school program. In order to support such a program of summer instruction, the Board will:

A. employ teaching and administrative staff;

B. purchase such books, materials, supplies, and equipment as may be necessary;

C. appoint the director;

D. make available school facilities as required;

E provide necessary custodial services.

Tuition fees shall not be charged to students domiciled within the Corporation.

Tuition shall be charged for nonresident students at rates as determined by the Board.

Instructional fees may be charged to all students.

With regard to transportation, the Board accepts responsibility for elementary students, and/or accepts responsibility for special education, if Case Conference so determines, and for those resident students involved in State-mandated testing and assessments who require transportation.

The Superintendent shall be responsible for developing administrative guidelines for the operation of the summer program which shall be consistent with Board policies and not conflict in any way with the administration of the regular school sessions of the Corporation.

I.C. 20-30-7-1,2, 20-30-6-6, 20-30-9-11