

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ORIGINAL COMMITTEE FOR STUDY OF SCHOOL POLICIES

Mrs. Loyce D. Whitson, Chairman, Double Springs
Mr. Wayne L. Tidwell, Co-Chairman, Arley
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Mr. Jimmie C. Lott - Addison Mr. Carlos L. Radford - Lynn
Mr. Morris M. Nix - Pebble Mrs. Elizabeth S. Smith - Haleyville
Mr. Farris C. Southern - Addison

The 1985 Revision Committee

Appreciation is extended to the members of the School District Organization Policy Committee for their valuable contribution to the development of written school board policies for the School District. Many hours of work by the members of this committee are represented by the policies that follow. Members of the 1985 School District Organization Committee were as follows:

Alton Hendon Glennis Posey
Jack Herron Ken Preuitt
Bill Self

The 1997 Revision Committee

Appreciation is extended to the members of the School District Organization Policy Committee for their valuable contribution to the development and revision of written school board policies for the School District. Many hours of work by the members of this committee are represented by the policies that follow. Members of the 1997 School District Organization Committee were as follows:

E. B. Barron Betty C. Porter
William L. Self Cassandra Tingle

A -- SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

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SCHOOL DISTRICT'S LEGAL STATUS

The School District derives its legal status from Alabama's State Legislature, which is subject only to the United States Constitution and to the Alabama State Constitution. Therefore, education is a state function.

Section 256 of The Constitution of the State of Alabama states:

"The legislature may by law provide for or authorize the establishment and operation of schools by such persons, agencies or municipalities, at such places and upon such conditions as it may prescribe..."

This section from the Alabama Constitution makes the State Legislature's authority in regard to education clear.

SOURCE: Winston County Board of Education, Double Springs, AL

ADOPTED: June 24, 1986

LEGAL REF.: The Code of Alabama, 16-8-8; U. S. Const. Amend. X; U.S. Const. Amend. XIV, 1; Ala. Const. amend. 111; Wisconsin v. Yoder, 92 S.Ct. 1526 (1972); Milliken v. Bradley, 94 S.Ct. 3112 (1974); Dayton Board of Education v. Brinkman, 97 S.Ct. 2766 (1977).

FILE: AB

SCHOOL BOARD'S LEGAL STATUS

The Constitution of Alabama places the responsibility for establishing and maintaining an efficient system of public schools on the State Legislature. At the local level, the Legislature has provided for two basic administrative units--a county board of education and a city board of education. Legally, local school boards are instruments of the State Legislature and derive their authority from the Constitution of Alabama, the statutes of The Code of Alabama and rules and regulations of the State Board of Education.

SOURCE: Winston County Board of Education, Double Springs, AL

ADOPTED: June 24, 1986

LEGAL REF.: The Code of Alabama, 16-8-8 to -10; Alabama Const. amend. 111; Alabama Const. art. XIV, 256; Day v. Andrews, 188 So. 2d 523 (1966); Sims v. Etowah County Bd. of Ed., 337 So. 2d 1310 (1976); Monell v. New York City Dept. of Social Services, 98 S. Ct. 2022 (1978).

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS' LEGAL STATUS

The Superintendent of Schools shall serve as the chief executive officer of the Board. He/she derives his/her legal status from The Code of Alabama.

The Board agrees, as a further condition of this elected office, that it shall defend, hold harmless, and indemnify the Superintendent of Schools from any and all demands, claims, suits, actions, and legal proceedings brought against the Superintendent of Schools in her/his individual capacity, or in her/his official capacity as agent and employee of the School District, provided the incident arose while the Superintendent of Schools was acting within the scope of her/his duties.

If in the good faith opinion of the Superintendent of Schools, a conflict exists as regards the defense to such claim between the legal position of the Superintendent of Schools and the legal position of the School District, the Superintendent of Schools may engage counsel in which event the School District shall indemnify the Superintendent of Schools for the cost of legal defense.

SOURCE: Winston County Board of Education, Double Springs, AL

ADOPTED: June 24, 1986

LEGAL REF.: The Code of Alabama, 11-2-1, 11-2-3, 16-8-7, 16-9-3, 16-9-8, 36-5-1.

FILE: ADA

SCHOOL CENSUS

The Board shall cause to be taken, under the direction of the Superintendent of Schools, a quadrennial school census of the school children between the ages of six (6) and 19 years. Said census shall be taken during the month of July in accordance with the directives of the State Superintendent of Education. The Superintendent of Schools shall be authorized to employ enumerators sufficient to complete the census. Compensation of enumerators shall, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, be set by the Board and paid by the County Commission from the County Treasury.

SOURCE: Winston County Board of Education, Double Springs, AL

ADOPTED: June 24, 1986; REVISED: July 7, 1998

LEGAL REF.: The Code of Alabama, 16-8-31 to -32; Legislative Act 82-298.

SCHOOL YEAR AND SCHOOL DAY

School Year

The school year shall meet the minimum standards set forth in The Code of Alabama and State Board of Education rules and regulations. The scholastic school year shall annually begin on July 1 and end on June 30. The instructional year shall consist of at least 180 days of not less than 6 hours (360 minutes) instructional time per day. The teacher contract year shall consist of not less than 187 days.

School Day

The school day for all schools of the School District shall meet the minimum standards set forth in The Code of Alabama and State Board of Education rules and regulations. The Code states that a school day shall include six (6) hours (360 minutes) of actual teaching time exclusive of all recesses and intermissions.

The Board realizes that on occasions the school day extends beyond the normal six (6) hours. In order to provide the students of the School District the opportunity to participate and engage in meaningful extracurricular and special activities that are sponsored by the schools and to provide parents and interested citizens the opportunity to meet with members of the school staffs to discuss matters of mutual interest, teachers and administrators are encouraged to establish plans to ensure that these vital activities are provided.

SOURCE: Winston County Board of Education, Double Springs, AL

ADOPTED: June 24, 1986; REVISED: July 7, 1998; July 6, 2000; Oct. 23, 2007

LEGAL REF.: The Code of Alabama, 16-1-1; Marshall County Board of Education v. State ex rel. Williams, 42 So. 2d 24 (1949).

FILE: AEA

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Superintendent of Schools shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, a yearly calendar for the School District. Said calendar shall be reviewed and is subject to approval by the Board not later than the regular April Board meeting.

The School District calendar shall include a yearly schedule of school holidays for students and selected personnel of the School District. The Board has discretionary power to identify in the school calendar holidays to be observed during each school year, except those holidays specified and required by law.

SOURCE: Winston County Board of Education, Double Springs, AL

ADOPTED: June 24, 1986

LEGAL REF.: The Code of Alabama, 16-8-10, 16-8-30.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSING

Temporary Closings

The decision to cancel or close a daily school session because of inclement weather, furnace breakdown, and similar common emergencies shall be at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools or designee.

Procedures

If it becomes necessary to cancel school due to an emergency, the following notification procedure will be used:

1. Every effort will be made to notify parents, students, and school personnel at the earliest possible time.
2. The local radio and TV stations will be requested to announce the cancellation of school during their early morning broadcasts.
 - a. The announcements will identify the school or schools that will have daily activities canceled.
 - b. The announcement will identify the reason for cancellation of school.
 - c. The announcement, if possible, will identify expected date school or schools will be reopened.
3. The Superintendent of Schools and/or designee will notify local school administrators and transportation officials as soon as possible.
4. Local school administrators should instruct all students and school personnel of these notification procedures.

If it becomes necessary to dismiss school during the school day due to an emergency, the following notification procedure will be used:

1. The local radio and TV stations will be requested to announce the closing of school or schools at the earliest possible time.
2. The Superintendent of Schools will notify local school administrators and transportation officials as soon as possible.
3. Local school administrators will take the necessary precautions to ensure the safety and well being of students during and after dismissal procedures are initiated.

SOURCE: Winston County Board of Education, Double Springs, AL

ADOPTED: Jun. 24, 1986; REVISED: July 7, 1998

LEGAL REF.: The Code of Alabama, 16-8-8 to -9.

FILE: AHC

SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION PLAN

The instructional program is presently divided into three levels: the elementary level, the unit school level and the senior high level. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and approval of the Board, exceptions may be made to the plan to accommodate the educational goals of the School District.

SOURCE: Winston County Board of Education, Double Springs, AL

ADOPTED: June 24, 1986

LEGAL REF.: The Code of Alabama, 16-8-36, 16-8-41; Shores v. Elmore County Board of Education, 3 So. 2d 14 (1941).