

Section 100

Foundation  
and Basic  
Commitments

**PRAIRIE DU CHIEN AREA SCHOOLS**

**BOARD POLICIES**

**SECTION 100 - FOUNDATIONS AND BASIC COMMITMENTS**

- 105 SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGAL STATUS
- 110 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING
- 111 STAFF INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING
- 115 NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY
- 116 PROCEDURES FOR COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION
- 120 EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY OF THE PRAIRIE DU CHIEN AREA SCHOOLS
- 125 MISSION STATEMENT
- 130 EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

**SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGAL STATUS**

The official name of the district is the Prairie du Chien Area School District.

The District includes all or parts of the following municipalities: the City of Prairie du Chien, the Towns of Prairie du Chien, Bridgeport, Eastman and Wauzeka, and the Village of Eastman.

The District is a unified school district encompassing grades PreK-12 as provided in the Statutes of the State of Wisconsin.

Adopted: 7/13/1993

Revised: 3/10/1997; 11/13/2000; 3/11/2002

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING**

The Board endorses the concept that community participation in the affairs of schools is essential if the school district and the community are to maintain mutual confidence and respect and work together to improve the quality of education for all students.

It also believes that effective citizen participation cannot be obtained if citizens may participate in decision making only at the district level. To respond fully to the needs and concerns of community groups, the school must work closely with its own school community.

It is the Board's belief that the school should be a basic unit around which community participation in decision making should be encouraged. For that reason it authorizes the establishment of advisory committees for the school, to operate under the general guidelines of Board Policy 241 regarding Advisory Committees.

Adopted: 3/11/2002

**STAFF INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING**

It shall be the policy of the Board to encourage employee participation in decision making for the school district.

In the development of rules, regulations, and arrangements for the operation of the school system, the District Administration shall include at the planning stage whenever feasible those employees who will be affected by such provisions.

The District Administrator shall develop with professional and nonprofessional employee's channels for the ready intercommunication of ideas and feelings regarding the operation of the schools.

Adopted: 3/11/2002

**NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The Prairie du Chien Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability which substantially interferes with a student's school performance or creates an intimidating, hostile offensive school environment. Federal law prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap.

The district encourages informal resolution of complaints under this policy. If any person believes that the Prairie du Chien Area School District or any part of the school organization has failed to follow the law and rules of s. 118.13, Wis. Stats., or in some way discriminates against pupils on the bases listed above, he/she may bring or send a complaint to the administration office at the following address:

1901 E. Wells Street  
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821

Adopted: 3/9/1992

Revised: 5/8/1995; 4/8/2001; 3/11/2002; 5/8/2006

**PROCEDURES FOR COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION**

- Step 1. A written statement of the complaint shall be prepared by the complainant and signed. This complaint shall be presented to the District Administrator. That employee shall send written acknowledgment of receipt of the complaint within 45 days.
- Step 2. A written determination of the complaint shall be made by the board within 90 days of receipt of the complaint unless the parties agree to an extension of time; appeals under 20 USC s. 1415 and ch. 115, Wis. Stats., relating to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or the provision of a free appropriate public education of a child with an exceptional educational need shall be resolved through the procedures authorized by ch. 115, sub ch. V, Wis. Stats. Complaints under 20 USC s. 1231e-3 and 34 CFE s. 76.78076.782, commonly referred to as EDGAR complaints, that the state or a subgrantee is violating a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program shall be referred directly to the state superintendent.
- Step 3. If a complainant wishes to appeal a negative determination by the board, he/she has the right to appeal the decision to the state superintendent within 30 days of the board's decision. In addition, the complainant may appeal directly to the state superintendent if the board has not provided written acknowledgment within 45 days of receipt of the complaint or made a determination within 90 days of receipt of the written complaint. Appeals should be addressed to:  
State Superintendent, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction,  
125 South Webster Street, P.O. Box 7841, Madison, Wisconsin 53707
- Step 4. Discrimination complaints on some of the above bases may also be filed with the federal government at the  
Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education,  
300 South Wacker Drive, 8th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60606.

Adopted: 3/9/1992

Revised: 5/8/1995; 4/8/2001; 3/11/2002

**EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY OF THE PRAIRIE DU CHIEN AREA SCHOOLS**

The kinds of educational experiences provided by the school will be based on the beliefs and guiding principles as stated in the following philosophy. The needs of young people, the community and society are basic to the establishment of this philosophy. We believe that:

1. The focus of the school system is on the learners - the students. Their educational development toward the school's goals is the central concern of the Board's policies, the administrative regulations, and the teaching process.
2. All individuals should be given the opportunity to develop in a manner compatible with their abilities, interests and endeavors. It is the school's job to provide the kind of environment, teaching methods and instructional programming to meet the individual learning needs of its students.
3. A varied curriculum must be provided and a constant effort made to keep the program relevant to the interests, ability levels and needs of the student body. The curriculum should insure all individuals the opportunity to attain success and personal satisfaction commensurate with their physical, emotional and intellectual capacities. The aim of all policies, regulations and teaching efforts should be to encourage students to want to learn.
4. The school should utilize modern educational, physiological and psychological research in devising programs. Teaching methods must include the use of current, consistent, relevant materials and techniques.
5. The school is an influencing factor in determining the social and moral growth of the student and recognizes its responsibility to cooperate with the home, church and other agencies.

Adopted: 3/9/1992; 3/11/2002

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Prairie du Chien Area School District in partnership with families and a supportive community, shares a strong commitment to provide quality educational opportunities to all, thus encouraging lifelong learning and nurturing honest, respectful, and responsible citizens prepared to meet the challenges of a changing global society.

Adopted: 4/8/1995

Reviewed: 3/11/2002

**EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS**

Appropriate means for curriculum evaluation shall be established and maintained. Elements of this evaluation may include:

1. Testing programs such as nationally standardized general achievement tests, national standardized tests in specific subject areas, and tests administered by other agencies.
2. Study of school achievement records.
3. Study of student dropout records.
4. Follow-up studies of High School graduates.
5. Needs assessment and surveys of the community.
6. State Department of Education specialists and services.
7. Evaluations by other agencies.

An evaluation of the curriculum and its effectiveness shall be made periodically and reported to the Board by the District Administrator.

Adopted: 4/15/1996

Revised: 2/14/2000; 3/11/2002