

## **ORGANIZATION, PHILOSOPHY, AND GOALS**

### **Policies, Bylaws, and Regulations**

#### **Legal Authority, Directive System**

This policy supersedes Policy 1100.3.

#### **I. PURPOSE**

To cite the legal authority for the establishment and maintenance of the Fairfax County Public Schools directive system.

#### **II. SUMMARY OF CHANGES SINCE LAST PUBLICATION**

This policy has been revised to comply with recent changes to the *Code of Virginia's Standards of Quality (SOQ)*, §§ 22.1-253.13:1 through 22.1-253.13:8.

#### **III. AUTHORITY**

In accordance with the *Standards of Quality for Public Schools in Virginia*, enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia under requirements outlined in Section 2 of Article VIII of the Constitution of Virginia, each school division is required to maintain and follow an up-to-date policy manual (directive system) and to provide a system for periodic review of all policies.

#### **IV. CONTENTS OF POLICY MANUAL**

The following shall be included in each school division's policy manual as required by the *Standards of Quality*:

- A. Each local school board shall maintain and follow up-to-date policies. All school board policies shall be reviewed at least every five years and revised as needed.
- B. Each local school board shall ensure that policies developed giving consideration to the views of teachers, parents, and other concerned citizens and addressing the following:
  1. A system of two-way communication between employees and the local school board and administrative staff members whereby matters of concern can be discussed in an orderly and constructive manner.
  2. The selection and evaluation of all instructional materials purchased by the school division, with clear procedures for handling challenged controversial materials.
  3. The standards of student conduct and attendance and enforcement procedures

designed to provide that public education be conducted in an atmosphere free of disruption and threat to persons or property and supportive of individual rights.

4. School-community communications and community involvement.
5. Guidelines to encourage parents to provide instructional assistance to their children in the home, which may include voluntary training for the parents of children in grades K through 3.
6. Information about procedures for addressing concerns with the school division and recourse available to parents pursuant to § 22.1-87.
7. A cooperatively developed procedure for personnel evaluation appropriate to tasks performed by those being evaluated.
8. Grievances, dismissals, etc., of teachers, and the implementation procedure prescribed by the General Assembly and the Board of Education, as provided in Article 3 (§ 22.1-306 et seq.) of Chapter 15 of this title, and the maintenance of such procedures.

A current copy of the school division policies, including the Student Conduct Policy, shall be posted on the division's web site and shall be available to employees and to the public. School boards shall ensure that printed copies of such policies are available as needed to citizens who do not have online access.

- C. An annual announcement shall be made in each division at the beginning of the school year and, for parents of students enrolling later in the academic year, at the time of enrollment, advising the public that the policies are available in such places.

Legal reference: Code of Virginia, Section 22.1-253.13:7

Policy

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