

ABOUT POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

Generally, the role of a school board is to set policy and the role of the administration is to implement it. Written policies are the chief means by which a school board governs the schools, and regulations are one of the means by which the board's policies are carried out. Here are the definitions set forth by the National School Boards Association, which provide a distinction between these two types of statements:

Policies are principles adopted by the board to chart a course of action. They tell what is wanted and may include why and how much. They are broad enough to indicate a line of action to be taken by the administration in meeting a number of day-after-day problems; they need to be narrow enough to give the administration clear guidance.

Regulations are detailed directions usually developed by the administration to put policy into practice. They tell how, by whom, where, and when things are to be done.