

**POLO COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #222
POLICY MANUAL
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School District Organization

School District Legal Status

The Illinois Constitution requires the State to provide for an efficient system of high quality public educational institutions and services in order to achieve the educational development of all persons to the limits of their capabilities.

The General Assembly has implemented this mandate through the creation of school districts. The District is governed by the laws for school districts having a population of not fewer than 1,000 and not more than 500,000.

The School Board constitutes a body corporate that possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes, and in that name may sue and be sued, purchase, hold and sell personal property and real estate, and enter into such obligations as are authorized by law.

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 1.
 105 ILCS 5/10-1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 2:10, 2:20

School District Organization

District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements

The District is organized and operates as follows:

Inasmuch as the organization, management, and control of the school district is vested by law in the Board, the Board hereby establishes and will continue to maintain policies and bylaws, amending them as needed, to guide its internal operations.

Those policies and bylaws shall always be drafted, adopted, and amended with full consideration for the board's wish to provide education of the best obtainable quality for the residents of our school district within the limitations of its ability to support it.

The Board of Education, in acknowledging the values and need of developing a written policy to govern district operations, has endeavored to keep in constant focus the following points of view:

Reaffirmation of Faith

Believing in American's democratic processes, we, the members of the Board of Education, having been selected by the citizens of this community, hereby reaffirm our faith in the public school system which has come down to us by choice and inheritance through successive generations.

Educational Opportunities

Seeking to serve the best interests of the citizens of our community, we declare publicly our aim to provide the highest educational opportunities for all, to the end they may find challenge, inspiration, and success limited only by their own potential and ambition.

Best Teachers Available

In providing these opportunities, we shall continue our endeavor to attract, employ, and hold the best teaching talent available.

Program of Quality

Respecting the administrators selected to supervise and direct the program of education, we shall encourage them by every professional means to maintain an educational program of quality.

The Community

Recognizing our legal and moral obligations to the community, we shall strive most diligently to manage the schools in a sound and economical manner; to shun extravagance; and, wherever possible, to involve citizens in an advisory capacity.

The Board of Education, as the controlling body of the public school, is charged with the responsibility of establishing policies for the schools and maintaining the best possible educational conditions for our school.

The Board of Education and its Work

The members of the Board of Education shall perform their duties as prescribed by law. The functions of the Board of Education is to appraise as well as legislate.

Cooperative Agreements

In order to provide educational opportunities to students that would not otherwise be available to them, the District participates in the following joint programs:

1. Whiteside Area Vocational Center
2. Ogle County Educational Cooperative
3. Rock River Challenge School

School District Organization

Administrative Procedure - Checklist for Handling Intergovernmental Agreement Requests

The Superintendent completes this checklist whenever the District receives a request to enter into an intergovernmental agreement.

- Acknowledge the receipt of the request to the sender.
- Confer with the Board President as to when to put the request on an open meeting agenda as a discussion and/or action item.
- Inform the request's sender approximately when the request will be presented to the Board.
- Investigate the factual context and the impact of granting or not granting the request.
- Prepare an evaluation of the request and a recommendation that takes into account the Board's priority in the allocating resources, including funds, time, personnel, and facilities, is the transmission of knowledge and culture through which students learn in areas necessary to their continuing development and entry into the world of work.
- Include the evaluation and recommendation in the appropriate Board meeting packet.

School District Organization

School District Philosophy

Polo Community Unit Schools are established and maintained for the purpose of meeting the educational needs of all boys and girls of this community. We feel the opportunity for an education is a right which is extended to all.

Our goals are:

1. To continually evaluate student and community needs to keep the educational programs adjusted to the changing needs and interests of the district population.
2. To provide students with experiences which will assist in developing constructive uses of their leisure time.
3. To provide students with an opportunity to pursue a course of study which is compatible with their aptitude and ability.
4. To provide group experiences which will foster the development of these ideals: citizenship, patriotism, and respect for self and others.
5. To create an atmosphere which is conducive to setting the stage for learning.
6. To create an atmosphere which will support critical thinking and the desire to pursue independent learning experiences.
7. To provide the physical facilities, as well as the professional personnel, to meet the educational needs of this community.

General Policy Statement

The board believes that policy positions about its own operations are needed for at least the following reasons:

1. To acquaint the residents of our school district, school district employees, and pupils with the role and purposes of the board as defined by law, the superintendent of public instruction, and the board's own intent.
2. To point out the opportunities which it enjoys and the constraints which it accepts in serving the cause of education in this school district.
3. To encourage thoughtful and considerate support from residents, employees, and pupils for the often complex problems which the board face.