SUBJECT: Definition of Policy

Policy is defined as a basic plan of action. It establishes limits within which freedom of judgment can be exercised.

Policy is the wise governing principal of management. It is a statement which has an effect on the interests of those who come under its jurisdiction. A policy may originate from the constitution, from statute, and/or from customary patterns of formal behavior.

Policies should accomplish the following:

- a) Reflect the general environment in which the school organization operates;
- b) Include direction for their implementation either by implication or broad explication;
- c) Be impartial in order to deal uniformly with all whom they touch;
- d) Omit non-relevant details that might need to be changed from time to time;
- e) Grant the authority to act.

A policy should be capable of being applied equitably in all circumstances to which it refers. The Board policy is a law and should not be set aside for one person while being applied to others. If the Board finds that it must modify an adopted policy for a particular case, it shall amend the inadequate policy for the future. It shall not let policy stand while acting in a different manner.

Education Law Section 1604 (9) and 1709 (1) and (2)