# POLICY REFERENCE MANUAL

## Section 100 District Organization and Basic Commitments

105	Return to School Committee
<b>104</b> 104.01	Educational and Operational Planning Annual School Census
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### LEGAL STATUS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Nebraska law authorizes the creation of public schools known as Common Schools System. As part of this Common Schools System, this School district is a School Corporation created and organized under Nebraska law. This school district shall be known as the Homer Community School District. The School District, as a body Corporate, possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes.

This School Corporation is located in Dakota County, and it's affairs are conducted by elected school official, the Homer Community School District Board of Education. This district, as outlined by the applicable state statutes.

Approved: December 9, 2013

Legal Reference: Neb. Constitution, Art. VII, Sect. 1,2

Neb. Statute 79-405, 79-501 et seq Languis V. Deboer, 181 Neb 36 (1966)

Cross Reference: 201.01 Board Powers and Responsibilities

## EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

As a school corporation of Nebraska, the Homer Community School District, acting through its School Board, is dedicated to promoting an equal opportunity for a quality public education to its students within the limitations of the school district's ability and willingness to furnish financial support to provide for students in cooperation with their parents and the school district community, the opportunity to develop a healthy social, intellectual, emotional, and physical self-concept in a learning environment that provides guidance to and encourages critical thinking in the students for a lifetime.

The board endeavors through the dedication of the school district's resources, to encourage students, who come to the school district from a variety of backgrounds, to look forward to the time when they will have jobs, homes, families, places in the school district community, and attain recognition as individuals. In order to achieve this goal, the board will seek qualified employees dedicated to development of their professional skills for the betterment of the education program and for the expertise for educational productivity.

Instruction and curriculum are the key elements of a public education. Critical thinking and problem-solving skills that will assist the students' preparation for life shall be instructed as part of a sequentially coordinated curriculum. The school district strives to prepare students for employment, to discover and nurture creative talent and to prepare them to meet and cope with social change in an atmosphere conducive to learning.

The support and involvement of the home and the school district community are essential to achieve educational excellence in the school district. The school district strives to maintain an active relationship with the home and the school district community to create responsibility and respect for authority.

Approved: December 9, 2013

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-526, 79-701

NDE Rule 10.004.01, .02

Cross Reference 103 Equal Educational Opportunity

104 Educational and Operational Planning

205 School Board Policy Process

601 Goals and Objectives of Instructional Plan

602 Curriculum Development

### EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The board requires all persons, agencies, vendors, contractors and other persons and organizations doing business with or performing services for the school district to subscribe to all applicable federal and state laws, executive orders, rules and regulations pertaining to contract compliance and equal opportunity.

The district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, or marital status, sexual orientation or gender identity in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Name and/or Title: Athletic Director

Address: 212 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Homer, NE 68030

Telephone No.: 402-698-2377

The board affirms the right of all students and staff to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm and harassment. Harassment or discriminatory behavior that denies civil rights or access to equal educational opportunities includes comments, name-calling, physical conduct or other expressive behavior directed at an individual or group that intentionally demeans the race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or marital status of the individual or individuals or creates an intimidating, hostile or demeaning environment for education.

Legal Reference:	Neb. Statute 79-2,114-2,124 20 U.S.C. §§ 1221 et seq. 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq. 20 U.S.C. §§ 1701 -1721 29 U.S. C. § 794 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq. 28 C.F.R. Pt. 35.1
	28 C.F.R. Pt. 35.1
	34 C.F.R. Pt. 100
	34 C.F.R. Pt. 104

Cross Reference 102 Educational Philosophy of the District

34 C.F.R. Pt. 106

402.01 Equal Employment Opportunity 404.06 Harassment by Employees

Objectives for Equal Educational Opportunities for

Students

504.18 Harassment by Students

Approved 8-10-20	Reviewed	Revised

#### EDUCATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING

At least every 5 years the board shall conduct an in-depth needs assessment, soliciting information from administrators, employees, parents, students and community members, regarding their expectations for adequate student preparation. A systematic on-going process guides planning, implementation, and evaluation and renewal of continuous school improvement activities to meet local and statewide goals and priorities. The school improvement process focuses on improving student learning. A The school system develops and implements a continuous school improvement process to promote quality learning for all students. This process includes procedures and strategies to address quality learning, equity, and accountability.

In all school systems, the continuous school improvement process includes the following activities at least once within each five years:

- 1. Review and update of the mission and vision statements.
- 2. Collection and analysis of data about student performance, demographics, learning climate, and former high school students.
- 3. Selection of improvement goals. At least one goal is directed toward improving student academic achievement.
- 4. Development and implementation of an improvement plan which includes procedures, strategies, actions to achieve goals, and an aligned professional development plan.
- 5. Evaluation of progress toward improvement goals.

The school improvement process includes a visitation by a team of external representatives to review progress and provide written recommendations. A copy of the school system's improvement plan and the written recommendations of the external representatives are provided to the Department. The external team visits are conducted at least once each five years.

Legal Reference:	Neb. Statute 79-526 79-701, 702 79-729		
	79-1301 NDE Rule 10-009		
Cross Reference	201.01 Board Powers and Responsibilities 203.06 Board Committees 604.01 Basic Instruction Program 1002.00 District Annual Report		

Approved 8-10-20	Reviewed	Revised
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Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-526; 79-701, 702; 79-729; 79-1301

NDE Rule 10-004.01A1; 10-004.02A; 10-004.07

Cross Reference 102 Educational Philosophy of the District

201.01 Board Powers and Responsibilities

203.06 Board Committees

604.01 Basic Instruction Program

902.01 Buildings and Sites Long Range Planning

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### ANNUAL SCHOOL CENSUS

The board will direct the superintendent to establish a permanent, continuing census of school children in the district. A list of the names of district taxpayers and all children from birth through twenty years shall be maintained at the superintendent's office.

Approved: December 9, 2013

Legal References: Neb. Statute 79-524; 79-537 (Class V); 79-578

Cross Reference: 607.01 Class Size-Class Grouping

1002 District Annual Report

File: 105.00 Page 1 of 1

#### RETURN TO SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The district will appoint a Return to School Committee and name a chairperson accountable for the committee's completion of activities required by the Nebraska Department of Education.

The Return to School Committee should include staff with appropriate oversight to monitor and guide individual tasks assigned to the Committee. This will include having a representative from each school site in the district. The Committee will involve external partners as needed to support its work and develop strategies for securing assistance. and procuring resources to carry out its tasks.

The Committee will determine and describe a vision in line with local values and community needs within the scope of the Committee's work and communicate this vision with all district stakeholders. The Committee will define and assign the roles and responsibilities of its work. This may include creating subcommittees as needed to carry out portions of the Committee's work.

The Committee and its subcommittees shall carry out a schedule of regular meetings.