General Policy Statement

The organization, management, and control of Hitchcock County Schools District #44-0070 is vested in its board of education ("board"). To guide the board and school district operations, and to assist it and its designees in carrying out duties, the board will establish, maintain, and amend a set of policies.

Written board policies serve the following purposes:

- 1. Formally articulating the board's goals and long-term objectives.
- 2. Providing district administrators and staff with guidance in making decisions that affect students, employees and patrons of the district.
- 3. Informing the public of the manner that the board and district will conduct its business and its relationships with staff, pupils, parents and patrons.

To avoid unnecessary rigidity, these policies are stated in general terms. With the exception of statutory requirements or instances when the specific application of a policy is essential to the long-term welfare of the district, these policies are intended to provide administrators with the flexibility to apply them to a wide range of situations.

The policies are not the only guidelines for district operations. Specific regulations, procedures, and practices also help guide and govern actions and decisions. They must be consistent with policies, but serve a different purpose.

Exceptional Circumstances

The board cannot foresee every situation that may arise, and circumstances will occur when these policies provide inadequate guidance. In such circumstances, the superintendent should use his or her best judgment, and communicate with the board about the situation as soon as is convenient.

Validity of Policies

Each policy and its provision should be interpreted so that it is valid under applicable law. If a court determines that a provision of a policy is invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions of that policy.

Hitchcock County Schools #44-0070 Adopted on: January 12, 2015