PREFACE

The following policies of Unified School District (USD) 421 are the result of a combined effort of the staff at the Kansas Association of School Boards, the Board of Education and district staff.

KASB has written the policy model and integrated the appropriate policies and procedures being used. Upon the completion of the first and second draft, KASB staff consulted with the board and selected district staff members to arrive at the final draft. This final draft was then adopted by the board.

Understanding the Policy System

Policies: principles adopted by the school board to chart a course of action. They tell WHAT is wanted and may include also WHY and HOW MUCH. They should be broad enough to provide the administration with flexibility and guidance in handling the day-to-day issues which arise. They also should be narrow enough to give the administration clear guidance.

This philosophy was incorporated into the thinking that produced the model and guided the board and the district's staff in developing the final, adopted policies.

A binder contains these thirteen sections of policies. These sections are:

A -- SCHOOL DISTRICT ORGANIZATION
B -- SCHOOL BOARD OPERATIONS
C -- GENERAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION
D -- FISCAL MANAGEMENT
E -- BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
F -- FACILITY EXPANSION PROGRAM
G -- PERSONNEL (Licensed and Non-Licensed)
H -- NEGOTIATIONS
I -- INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM
J -- STUDENTS
K -- GENERAL PUBLIC RELATIONS
L -- INTERORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONS
M -- RELATIONS WITH OTHER EDUCATION AGENCIES
The policy system's ultimate success depends on using these policies daily to guide the board, administrators and other staff as a management tool to facilitate school board operations and actions.

The Index

The index is designed to help the user find the subject described in the appropriate policy.

When Using This Manual

Proper use of this manual includes, looking up the subject matter in the index and proceeding to the policy section first. Second, check the table of contents which is found in the front of each policy section. Determine if the desired subject is cross-referenced to any other policy. Proceed to the alpha code in the appropriate section and read the policy. Once this is done, cross-references should also be read.

State Law and Negotiated Contracts

Policies do not contain any statutory language or citations, unless necessary or negotiated contract language. They exist in separate documents which should be consulted as needed. If there is doubt about the subject being considered, guidance should be sought from the superintendent or another administrative staff member.