

Policy 2

ROLE OF THE BOARD

As the corporate body elected by the voters, the Board of Education is responsible for the development of goals and policies to guide the provision of educational services to students attending District schools and programs, in keeping with the requirements of government legislation and the values of the electorate.

Specific Areas of Responsibility

1. Accountability to Governments

The Board shall:

- 1.1 Act in accordance with all statutory requirements of federal and provincial legislation to implement educational standards and policies.
- 1.2 Perform Board functions required by governing legislation and existing Board policy.

2. Accountability to and Engagement of Community

The Board shall:

- 2.1 Make decisions that address the needs and demands of the entire District.
- 2.2 Establish processes and provide opportunities for community input.
- 2.3 Communicate the District Strategic Plan, and achievements of students and staff to the community, at least annually.
- 2.4 Develop procedures for and hear appeals as required by statute and/or Board policy.
- 2.5 Provide for two-way communication between the Board and stakeholder groups.
- 2.6 Meet regularly with municipal governments and other educational/public service or business governing authorities to achieve educational ends.
- 2.7 Model a culture consistent with District values.

3. Planning

The Board shall:

- 3.1 Provide overall direction for the District by establishing a vision, values and strategic issues to be addressed.
- 3.2 Develop and approve the District's long term Strategic Plan.
- 3.3 Annually set District goals and key results, aligned with the District's Strategic Plan.

- 3.4 Monitor progress toward the achievement of student outcomes and other desired results.
- 3.5 Annually evaluate the effectiveness of the District in achieving established goals and desired results.

4. Policy

The Board shall:

- 4.1 Identify the purpose to be achieved and the criteria for a new policy.
- 4.2 Make the final decision as to the approval of all policy statements.
- 4.3 Evaluate policy impact to determine if policy has created the desired change.
- 4.4 Determine policies which outline how the Board is to function.
- 4.5 Delegate authority to the Superintendent and define commensurate responsibilities.

5. Board/Superintendent Relations

The Board shall:

- 5.1 Select the Superintendent.
- 5.2 Provide the Superintendent with clear corporate direction.
- 5.3 Delegate in writing, administrative authority and identify responsibility subject to the provisions and restrictions in provincial legislation and regulations.
- 5.4 Evaluate the Superintendent and review compensation in accordance with the Superintendent's contract.
- 5.5 Respect the authority of the Superintendent to carry out executive action and support the Superintendent's actions which are exercised within the delegated discretionary powers of the position.

6. Political Advocacy

The Board shall:

- 6.1 Address external issues in a manner consistent with District values.
- 6.2 Make decisions regarding British Columbia School Trustee Association and British Columbia Public Sector Employees' Association issues.
- 6.3 Advance District positions and priorities through relevant provincial organizations and associations.

7. Board Development

The Board shall:

- 7.1 Annually evaluate the Board's effectiveness.
- 7.2 Annually develop a Board development plan aligned with District priorities.

8. Fiscal Accountability

The Board shall:

- 8.1 Approve process and timelines for budget deliberations.
- 8.2 In collaboration with the Superintendent, identify assumptions and draft priorities for the creation of the annual budget.
- 8.3 Approve the annual budget which aligns with key goals and the Strategic Plan.
- 8.4 Annually approve the District's facilities planning document.
- 8.5 Annually appoint or reappoint the auditor and approve the terms of engagement.
- 8.6 Review annually the audit report and management letter.
- 8.7 Provide direction regarding the mandate for local employee negotiations.
- 8.8 Make decisions regarding ratification of memoranda of agreement with bargaining units.
- 8.9 Approve the acquisition and disposition of District land and buildings.
- 8.10 Approve tender selection for contracts over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000).
- 8.11 Approve construction projects in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000).

Selected Responsibilities

1. Establish parameters for early retirement incentive plans.
2. Approve local school calendars, as requested in accordance with legislation.
3. Approve Board Authority Authorized Courses.
4. Hear appeals on the reconsideration of resource materials which are challenged.
5. Approve the naming of educational facilities and land.
6. Recognize students, staff and community members.
7. Approve school catchment areas.
8. Approve transportation service level changes.
9. Approve District partnerships.

Legal Reference: *Sections 77, 85 School Act*