

Governing Style

The Board will govern lawfully, ethically and prudently with an emphasis on organizational vision rather than on interpersonal issues of the Board; encourage diversity in viewpoints; engage in strategic leadership rather than administrative detail; observe clear distinction between Board and District Superintendent roles; make collective rather than individual decisions; exhibit future orientation rather than past or present; and govern pro-actively rather than reactively.

Accordingly:

1. The Board will cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The Board, not the District Superintendent or staff, will be responsible for excellence in governing. The Board will work in partnership with the District Superintendent, staff, students, parents and the community to initiate policy. The Board will use the expertise of individual Board members to enhance the ability of the Board as a body rather than to substitute individual judgments for the Board's values.
 - a. Members will attend all regularly scheduled board meetings insofar as possible and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings.
 - b. Members will endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held board meetings.
 - c. Members will encourage free expression of opinion by all board members and seek systematic communications between the board and students, staff and all elements of the community.
2. The Board will direct, control and inspire the district through the careful establishment of written policies reflecting the Board's values and perspectives. The Board's major policy focus will be on the intended long-term benefits for students, not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those benefits.
3. The Board will enforce upon itself whatever self-discipline is needed to govern with excellence. This self-discipline will apply to matters such as attendance, preparation for meetings, policymaking principles, respect of roles, and ensuring the continuity of governance capability.
4. Continual Board development will include orientation of new members in the Board's governance process and periodic Board discussion of process improvement.
5. The Board will allow no officer, individual or committee of the Board or any other person to hinder or be an excuse for not fulfilling its commitments

The Board will monitor and discuss the Board's process and performance at each meeting. Self-monitoring will include comparison of Board activity and discipline to policies in the *Governance Process* and *Board-Superintendent Relationship* categories.

Adopted November 16, 1998

Revised: March 18, 2013
August 24, 2009
June 20, 2007
October 18, 2004

Legal References: -

Monitoring Method: Board self-assessment

Monitoring Frequency: Each Board Meeting