

Governance Process 2a Governing Style

The Board, as the whole community's representative, governs with a focus on organizational vision, exhibits a future orientation rather than past or present, governs proactively, and evaluates the Superintendent's progress in meeting the short and long-term ends to achieve the vision. The Board commits to governing with excellence, and all directors are expected to behave ethically and professionally.

Fidelity to the whole community and other board members

1. The Board represents the entire community and all diverse viewpoints.
 - a) The Board will foster open communication, which requires trust and respect for individual differences. This includes having an open mind, being willing to listen, and showing respect.
 - b) The Board agrees to encourage constructive debate, recognizing that differing viewpoints lead to better decisions. Constructive debate focuses upon the issues and is not personal. Board members will not criticize one another, the administration, the staff, or the district's community in public.
 - c) The Board will base decisions by identifying the issues, gathering and analyzing available data, considering a range of alternatives, and recognizing the consequences of decisions on all parties involved.
2. The Board will cultivate shared responsibility and make all decisions consistent with the Board's Ends and policy governance.
 - a) The Board's authority to act is only by quorum in an official meeting of the Board.
 - b) Once a decision is reached, each Board member will respect that decision.
3. The Board governs through written governance policies that reflect the community's values and the Vision and Mission for the district. All governance policies are under the sole discretion of the Board. The Board may revise its policies at any time.
4. Governing with excellence includes regular attendance, thorough preparation for meetings, adherence to policy governance, and continuous improvement.
5. Continuous improvement includes:
 - a) Timely asking of questions to gain clarity on issues before the Board
 - b) Systematically reviewing Board policies
 - c) Providing orientation for Board candidates
 - d) Participating in professional growth opportunities for new and continuing Board members
 - e) Self-evaluation at each board meeting for general meeting behavior and confirmation that policy governance principles were followed.
6. If a quorum of board members agrees that a member has violated a GP provision, a board representative shall discuss the matter in private with the offending member. If the violation continues, the board may remove the member from all committees, censure the member, or proceed with all remedies available under the law.
7. If an executive session is deemed necessary to discuss a Board member's behavior, that information will remain confidential and not made public unless there is Board agreement to do so.