

POLICY 120 BOARD AUTHORITY, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board of Education has, as its primary role, the governance of the school district and the commitment to student achievement. The Board fulfills this role, in part, through the development and implementation of a strategic plan that establishes a vision, mission and goals to direct resources and align the work of staff.

The Board also has a foundational responsibility to competently protect the interests, image and credibility of the school district, to ensure its financial viability and to act in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations and policies.

The Board's authority is established within the *School Act* and its regulations. The rights, powers, duties and liabilities of the Board rest only with the legally constituted Board, and not with committees of trustees or individual trustees.

The Board exercises its authority and responsibilities through the development of policy and the establishment of a balanced annual budget.

Guidelines

1. The Board represents the community, makes decisions with the benefit of the whole district in mind and is accountable to the community.
2. The Board will operate in an open and transparent manner, and debate on agenda items will be conducted within Board meetings.
3. The Board functions as a corporate Board and speaks with one voice.
4. The Board establishes a long-term vision, provides clear direction through policy and monitors results through reporting from staff through the Superintendent.
5. Accountability for the day-to-day operations of the district and policy implementation is delegated to the Superintendent.
6. The Board acts in the interests of all learners in the district, advocating for students, their learning and their well-being in the Board's work with the community, the municipality and the province.
7. The Board promotes confidence in publicly-funded education through its communications about the goals and achievements of the Board.