Policy Title 4.6: Chair's Role

The chair, a specially empowered member of the board, ensures the integrity of the board's process and, secondarily, occasionally represents the board to outside parties.

Policy 4.6.1:
The assigned result of the chair's job is that the board behaves consistently with its own rules and those legitimately imposed on it from outside the organization.
  a) Meeting discussion content will consist solely of issues that clearly belong to the board to decide or to monitor according to board policy.
  b) Information that is for neither monitoring performance nor board decisions will be avoided or minimized and always noted as such.
  c) Deliberation will be fair, open, and thorough but also timely, orderly, and kept to the point.

Interpretation:
We interpret this to mean the chair ensures the integrity of the board process. This includes following Policy Governance methodology as well as conducting board business outside of regularly scheduled meetings in an ethical and professional manner. Agendas will consist of board issues only. Board meetings will be conducted openly, held on a regular schedule and be conducted efficiently and effectively with respect to time and content. When necessary the chair represents the board to outside parties.

Evidence:
The chair runs meetings in an effective and efficient manner. All issues brought to meetings are discussed thoroughly where all board members are given an opportunity to share their perspectives in an equitable fashion. These discussions are recorded in the meeting minutes.

Conclusion:
We report compliance.

Policy 4.6.2:
The authority of the chair consists of making decisions that fall within topics covered by board policies on Governance Process and Board-Management Delegation, with the exception of (a) employment or termination of a superintendent and (b) areas where the board specifically delegates portions of this authority to others. The chair is authorized to use any reasonable interpretation of the provisions in these policies.
  a) The chair is empowered to chair board meetings with all the commonly accepted powers of that position, such as ruling and recognizing.
b) The chair has no authority to make decisions about policies created by the board within Ends and Executive Limitations policy areas. Therefore, the chair has no authority to supervise or direct the superintendent.

c) The chair may represent the board to outside parties in announcing board-stated positions and in stating chair decisions and interpretations within the area delegated to her or him and report such activity at the next meeting of the board.

d) The chair may delegate this authority but remains accountable for its use.

**Interpretation:**

We interpret this to mean the chair will oversee meetings. The chair does not have the authority to direct or supervise the superintendent. The chair will represent the board to outside parties that pertain to the board and reports at the meetings. The chair can delegate responsibilities but still remains accountable.

**Evidence:**

Meeting minutes and board meeting recordings will show that the chair runs board meetings. He also communicates to outside parties whether it be letters to community members we invite to meetings and/or getting information out to representatives and stakeholders.

The irregular use of the Board monitoring eval sheets suggests that the board meetings have been run effectively and efficiently by the chair.

In Policy 2.8 Communication and Support to the Board section 5, the superintendent did not report any issues with the chairs' behavior or actions.

**Conclusion:**

We report compliance.