

Policy Title: 4.2 Board Job Description

Specific job products of the board, as an informed agent of the ownership, are those that ensure appropriate organizational performance.

Accordingly, the Board has direct responsibility to:



Board President

June 10, 2020

Date

January 10, 2018

Last Reviewed

Policy 4.2.1:

Create and maintain the linkage between the Board and the ownership and the operational organization to represent the informed voice of the owners. This linkage will include:

- *Seeking input regarding owner values on issues of Ends, prudence and ethics*
- *Educating owners on issues impacting the organization*
- *Reporting to the owners on organizational performance*
- *Ensuring owners and other stakeholders that bring non-governing issues to the board understand the process for getting their issue addressed by the system in a courteous and respectful manner.*

Interpretation:

The Board interprets this to mean that board members are elected to represent owners of the school district which encompasses all taxpayers of the community. Board members provide a linkage between the Board and our owners and the school district leadership. The Board seeks input regarding owner values and uses the position and knowledge of the school system to report and educate the owners on organizational performance. The Board maintains a strict adherence to the chain of command with respect to issues brought to the Board or individual Board members attention and ensures follow-up to understand if the issue got attention at the appropriate levels.

Evidence:

Our ENDS statement was developed using a significant amount of input from our community. Public forums were held to gain a deeper understanding of the components of our ENDS statements, inviting community content experts to sit at the board table for robust discussions on each area of the ENDS statement. Board interpretations of the ENDS, influenced by owners and community stakeholders, are driving our vision and day-to-day actions in moving the district forward.

Through our monthly District Newsletter and when appropriate Front Porch Forum (FPF), the Board are able to direct specific communication to our community.

The Board has been very diligent in ensuring that the chain of command is being utilized from the correct levels. Superintendent input can be used for this data point.

Conclusion:

The Board reports compliance.

Policy 4.2.2:

Create and maintain written governing policies that realistically address the broadest levels of all organizational decisions and situations. Policies will include:

- *Ends: organizational outcomes, impacts, benefits, recipients, and their relative worth (what good for which recipients at what cost)*
- *Executive Limitations: constraints on executive authority that establish the prudence and ethics boundaries within which all executive activity and decisions must take place*
- *Governance Process: specification of how the board conceives, carries out, and monitors its own task*
- *Board-Management Delegation: how the Board is delegated and its proper use; the superintendent's role, authority, and accountability*

Interpretation:

The Board interprets this to mean that the Board serves our community to provide guidance through policy which guides our school administration for the benefit of our students primarily, but also for the employees, parents, taxpayers, and community. These policies, in the broadest sense, identify the expected Ends or outcomes for our students, provide executive limitations to our leadership, and identify the Board's role in our education system, including contract negotiations.

Evidence:

Data based on the online Board policies covering each of these areas.

Conclusion:

The Board reports compliance.

Policy 4.2.3:

Gain assurance of successful organizational performance on Ends and Executive Limitations.

Interpretation:

The Board interprets this to mean that the Board will have metrics/methods in place to ensure that the Board understands current organizational performance with respect to Ends and Executive Limitations.

Evidence:

With respect to Executive Limitations (EL), the Board has a solid history of receiving Executive Limitations reports from the Superintendent. In the 2017-2018 school year, the board began reviewing all eight EL interpretations, embedding the review practice into the Annual Board Agenda for forward looking expectations. Each annual review of prior accepted reports of EL are stored on the school website for review.

With respect to the ENDS performance, the Board is in the process of fine tuning our metrics at this time. Significant time at the 2019 annual retreat was spent discussing state-level Snapshot student performance data and local assessment data. The Board has selected Snapshot and local data in the areas of reading and math in year-to-year progress by looking at specific grades each year and following cohorts over time.

Conclusion:

The Board reports full compliance for Assurance of Organizational Performance on Executive Limitations and partial compliance concerning organizational performance regarding ENDS.

Policy 4.2.4:

Advocate for legislative change, which positively impacts public education.

Interpretation:

The Board interprets this to mean the board will advocate at the state and local levels when issues arise that affect our district.

Evidence:

Representatives from the board engaged in direct interactions with state legislators to advocate for increased spending limits for districts who underspend the state average for per pupil spending, to adopt recommendations of the Weighting Study, to commit resources to school construction aid and to report essential budget figures to school districts in a timely manner to support budget development.

Conclusion:

The Board reports compliance.

Policy 4.2.5

Appoint the external auditor.

Interpretation:

The Board interprets this to mean that the Board will appoint the external auditor on a periodic basis. Currently, the Board is in with a 3-year contract with our Auditor. The Board understands the need to go out to bid on a regular basis to ensure a fresh perspective on financial methods. Including the current contract, the Board will be six years with the same auditors. When the Board goes out to bid at the end of the current contract, cost as well as the need for a new set of eyes on processes will drive decisions.

Evidence:

Data based on current contract with Auditor and minutes from meeting when their bid was selected.

Conclusion:

The Board reports compliance.

Policy 4.2.6:

Operational Decisions which the Executive Limitations policies prohibit the superintendent from making.

- *Determine the expenditure of surplus funds*
- *Determine the expenditure of long-term reserves*
- *Determine any closing of buildings as public schools*
- *Negotiating union contracts*
- *Conduct fair hearings in its role as a quasi-judicial body*

Interpretation:

The Board interprets this to mean that the Board is responsible for carrying out the above bulleted activities and shall not relegate this to the Superintendent. The Administrative team aids in the decision making process for expenditure of surplus and excess funds, yet the ultimate decision rests with the Board. Negotiating contracts and conducting fair hearings are understood to be the role of the Board.

Evidence:

Data based on meeting minutes from Board meetings when these topics are discussed that document the Board decision on these items. The process for Board hearings are only utilized when necessary after the normal complaint process has follothe Board either contract language or policy.

Conclusion:

The Board reports compliance.