

0155 - BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board of Education authorizes the creation of committees of Board members charged to conduct studies, make recommendations to the Board, and act in an advisory capacity. Committees are not authorized to take action on behalf of the Board.

The President shall appoint Board members to serve a one-year term on the following Board standing committees:

1. Curriculum, Instruction and Programs:

- Review new curricular offerings
- Review existing curricula
- Review academic programs
- Review organization of instruction
- Review professional development of Board and staff
- Plan community relations about committee activities
- Consider other matters brought to it by the administration or referred by the President of the Board or by a majority of the Board
- Review and update 5 year plan

2. Facilities:

- Review condition and adequacy of plant (physical facilities)
- Recommend addition, improvement or retirement of capital equipment and real estate
- Review security
- Oversee community use of buildings
- Plan community relations about committee activities
- Consider other matters brought to it by the administration or referred by the President of the Board or by a majority of the Board
- Review and update 5 year plan

3. Board/Staff Relations:

- Meet with representatives of the professional staff to discuss issues of common interest
- Review grievances brought by any employee group
- Plan community relations about committee activities
- Consider other matters brought to it by the administration or referred by the President of the Board or by a majority of the Board

4. Finance:
 - Oversee business planning and budgeting
 - Review methods of reporting
 - Ensure adherence to mandated accounting
 - Review audit
 - Communicate with business office regarding transportation, cafeteria, etc.
 - Plan community relations about committee activities
 - Consider other matters brought to it by the administration or referred by the President of the Board or by a majority of the Board

5. Policies:
 - Review and update 5 year policy review cycle
 - Review and update Board policies to insure compliance with state and federal law
 - Plan community relations about committee activities
 - Consider other matters brought to it by the administration or referred by the President of the Board or by a majority of the Board
 - Propose new policies as needed

6. Negotiations:
 - Conduct negotiations with employee bargaining units
 - Plan community relations about committee activities
 - Consider other matters brought to it by the administration or referred by the President of the Board or by a majority of the Board

7. Long Range Planning:
 - Develop and update a long range plan to achieve the district's goals and objectives
 - Plan community relations about committee activities
 - Consider other matters brought to it by the administration or referred by the President of the Board or by a majority of the Board

8. Town Council Liaison:
 - Meet with representatives of the Town Council to discuss issues of common interest
 - Plan community relations about committee activities
 - Consider other matters brought to it by the administration or referred by the President of the Board or by a majority of the Board.

9. Technology Committee
 - Oversee the District's technology plan and its effective implementation
 - Review social media communication plans
 - Review website and make recommendations for its improvement and maintenance

- Review condition and maintenance of technology hardware and software
- Keep abreast of new technologies to foster 21st Century skills in students, teachers, and administrators
- Keep abreast of new technologies to promote student achievement and proficiency in the Core Curriculum Content Standards
- Plan community relations about committee activities
- Consider other matters brought to it by the administration or referred by the President of the Board or a majority
- Plan community relations about committee activities

10. Legislation Committee

- Keep abreast of State and Federal legislation that effects schools
- Communicate information about State and Federal legislation to Board and public and recommend action
- Facilitate advocacy parent groups seeking to lobby for the District when appropriate
- Draft and recommend resolutions and letters for the Board to approve and sign that advocate for Board positions
- Consider other matters brought to it by administration or referred by the President of the Board or a majority of the Board
- Plan community relations about committee activities

An ad hoc committee may be created and charged at any time by the President or a majority of the Board members present and voting. The President shall appoint members to any committee so created and charged; members shall serve until the committee is discharged.

Committees shall consist of no more than four Board members. A member may request or refuse appointment to a committee; a member's refusal to serve on any one committee shall not prejudice his or her appointment to another committee

The President shall appoint a chairperson for each committee.

Members of each committee shall be appointed by the President after consultation with the respective committee chairperson.

A majority of committee members shall constitute a quorum. Recommendations emerging from a meeting of fewer than the total committee shall note the names of the attending members when specifically requested to do so.

By decision of the chair and with notification to committee members, meetings of standing committees may be advertised to invite public attendance.

Each committee shall attempt to gather all pertinent facts relating to any topic within its assigned jurisdiction and submit recommendations based thereon to the full Board. If the recommendation is not unanimous the minority view may also be presented. Notes of Committee meetings shall be distributed to the full Board and passed on to the succeeding chairperson.

Attendance by Board members at meetings of standing committees shall be limited to committee members. Individual members of the public and/or staff may be invited to a committee meeting to serve as a resource, when necessary.

Committee meetings may be called at any time by the committee chairperson or when a meeting is requested by a majority of the members of the committee.

Committee meetings shall not be open to the public, except that a majority of the committee or the chairperson may open the meeting to the public or invite persons whose knowledge or expertise may be useful to the committee.

Committee of the Whole

1. The Committee of the Whole comprises all Board members.
2. The President of the Board shall serve as Chairperson of the Committee of the Whole.
3. The Committee of the Whole shall meet on the same day of the week as the usual Board meeting, if possible.
4. The functions of the Committee of the Whole include the following:
 - Develop an understanding of topics of concern to the Board or the staff
 - Develop Board consensus on issues to be decided at public meetings of the Board
 - Consider correspondence to and from the Board
 - Make assignments to and hear reports from committees, Board members, or the staff
 - Determine the time and place of special or executive meetings of the Board
 - Schedule future meetings of the Committee of the Whole
 - Act on such additional matters as may properly come before the meeting.
5. Any consensus reached by the Committee of the Whole concerning expenditures, appointments, adoption of policies and matters of great significance or public interest shall not be considered binding on the Board or individual members unless the matter is voted upon in a public session.

Special Committees

Special committees may be appointed at the discretion of the President or at the request of a majority of the Board.

The majority of the Board must concur with the establishment of committees which include public members.

These committees shall be discharged upon completion of their assignment.

Special committees shall include four or fewer Board members. Attendance by Board members at meetings of special committees shall be limited to committee members and such additional Board members as the committee may invite to sit with it.

Liaison Assignments

To further the Board's interest in working with community and parent groups, individual Board members will be assigned as liaison representatives to other organizations.

No individual member and no group comprised of less than the full membership shall be designated as a permanent committee to perform any of the Board's functions except those signatory functions required by State law. Each committee shall function purely as a fact-finding and advisory group. A committee shall have power to act only when a majority of the Board assigns it that power with respect to a particular problem and within the limits specific in the assignment. Any authority so delegated shall be exercised in a meeting where the public is admitted in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231).