



**MOOSONEE DISTRICT
SCHOOL AREA BOARD**

BOARD GOVERNANCE POLICY	
Motion	2015-02-021
Adopted	February 24, 2015
Last Revised	
Review Date	

ROLE OF THE CORPORATE BOARD

1. PURPOSE

This governance policy provides a job description of the elected Board, incorporates the most recent provisions of the *Education Act*, and supports effective Board decision-making. The policy provides clarity about the alignment between the role of the Board as a governing policy-making body and the role of the supervisory officer who implements the directions of the Board.

2. POLICY: AREAS OF BOARD RESPONSIBILITY

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL-BEING

- Make decisions that reflect Moosonee District School Area Board’s focus on student achievement and its philosophy and values statement that all students can learn.
- Promote a culture of equity to ensure that an appropriate educational program is available for all students.
- Approve measures that promote student well-being.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Act in accordance with the *Education Act*, Regulations, and other statutory requirements to ensure the implementation of provincial and education standards and policies.
- Provide advice to the Ministry of Education and the Ontario Public School Boards’ Association regarding the regional and local implications of new policy recommendations.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE COMMUNITY

- Make decisions that reflect Moosonee District School Area Board’s philosophy, goals, and values.
- Make decisions that support the Board’s strategic plan, which represents the interests of the district.
- Establish processes that provide the School Council and community with opportunities for input appropriate to their role.
- Consult and engage with the staff, parents, students, and supporters of the Board on the Board’s multi-year strategic plan.
- Provide reports that describe district results in accordance with provincial policy.
- Develop processes to receive and hear appeals in accordance with appropriate statutes and Board policy.
- Model a culture that reflects the Board’s Code of Conduct.

SYSTEM LEADERSHIP AND PLANNING

- Provide overall direction for Moosonee District School Area Board by establishing the Board philosophy, goals, and values statements.
- Develop and approve a multi-year plan aimed at achieving the Board's goals.
- Include annual system priorities and expected outcomes in the Board plan.
- Annually approve the Board plan in public session for district distribution.
- Annually use the Board plan to drive the budget process.
- Annually review the Board plan with the supervisory officer.
- Annually evaluate the effectiveness of Moosonee District School Area Board in relation to the Board plan.
- Monitor progress toward the improvement of student achievement and well-being.
- Ensure that reports on implementation of the Board plan are brought to the attention of supporters and employees of the Board.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, AND EVALUATION

- Develop governance policies that outline how the Board and district will successfully function, and that promote the Board's goals and encourage students to pursue their educational goals.
- Ensure that a purpose statement is developed for all new policies prior to development.
- Approve policy statements that meet the criteria identified by the Board.
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of Board policies in achieving the Board's goals, and the efficiency of the implementation of these policies.
- Hold the supervisory officer responsible for the implementation and review of Board policies.

SUPERVISORY OFFICER/BOARD RELATIONS

- Select the supervisory officer.
- Provide the supervisory officer with a clear job description and corporate direction.
- Delegate administrative authority and responsibility to the supervisory officer through Board policy, subject to the provisions and restrictions of the *Education Act* and Regulations.
- Monitor and evaluate the performance of the supervisory officer in meeting his/her duties under the *Act*, including related policies, guidelines, and regulations as well as duties under the multi-year plan and any other duties assigned by the Board.
- Promote the professional growth of the supervisory officer in continuing to provide quality district leadership.
- Ensure ongoing capacity building and succession planning for key positions.
- At least once a year at the supervisory officer's request, provide the supervisory officer with an opportunity to meet alone with the Board in private session.
- Promote a positive working relationship with the supervisory officer.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- Develop a budget review process to help determine annual resource allocations, using the Board multi-year plan and other provincial and local directions.
- Annually approve the budget to ensure that financial resources are allocated to achieve the desired results.

- Approve as per legislation all capital plans and other planning documents that drive budget decisions.
- Establish an Audit Committee, in accordance with provincial regulations.
- Set parameters for collective bargaining and ratify Memoranda of Agreements with all bargaining units and non-union groups.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

- Formally evaluate the Board's effectiveness and performance on a regular basis.
- Develop an annual plan for both collective and individual trustee development by increasing knowledge of the trustee role, Board processes, issues, and the Board philosophy, goals, and values.
- Use the expertise of the supervisory officer and provincial organizations to help develop and support the trustees' professional development plan.
- Seek opportunities to network with other school boards.

POLITICAL ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION

- Develop and maintain positive and effective relations with officials in the Ministry of Education, members of provincial parliament, and counterparts in municipal government.
- Annually develop a plan that aligns with the Board's strategic plan, to ensure that the Board is communicating with the community.

RECOGNITION

- Develop mechanisms to ensure that Moosonee District School Area Board recognizes students and student achievement.
- Develop mechanisms to ensure that Moosonee District School Area Board recognizes the achievements of the staff, volunteers, and community members.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS***Legal:***

Education Act, S. 169.1; S. 170 Duties and Powers of Boards

Education Act, S. 283 Chief Executive Officer

Board:

Board Governance Policies

Multi-Year Plan: Strategic Plan

Administrative Procedures