THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Officers

The Board officers are the Chair and Vice Chair. The officers shall be elected at the annual organizational meeting, and shall serve until the next annual organizational meeting unless the trustee officer resigns such position or is removed from office pursuant to Montana law.

Chair

The Chair may be any trustee of the Board, including an additional trustee as provided for in MCA 20-3-352(2). If any additional trustee is chosen to serve as the chair of an elementary district described in MCA 20-3-351(1)(a), the additional Trustee may not vote on issues pertaining only to the elementary district. The additional trustee, as the presiding officer of the Board, has all other powers, protections, and obligations of a presiding officer of an elementary district, including those under 2-3-203 (pertaining to open meetings). The duties of the Chair include the following:

• Preside at all meetings and conduct meetings in the manner prescribed by Montana law and Board policies;
• Make all Board committee appointments, subject to Policy 1130-P1;
• Sign all papers and documents as required or permitted by law and as authorized by Board action;
• Close Board meetings as authorized by Montana law;
• Act as spokesperson for the Board; and
• Perform other duties as provided by law or by Board authority.

Except as provided in Policy 1105, the Chairman is permitted to participate in all Board meetings in a manner equal to all other Board members, including the right to make motions, to second motions, to participate in debate and to vote.

Vice Chair

Both elementary trustees and high school trustees may serve as vice chair of the board. Except as provided herein, the Vice Chair shall, in the absence of the Chair:

• Preside at all meetings and conduct meetings in the manner prescribed by Montana law and Board policies;
• Make all Board committee appointments, subject to Policy 1130-P1;
• Sign all papers and documents as required or permitted by law and as authorized by Board action;
• Close Board meetings as authorized by Montana law;
• Act as spokesperson for the Board; and
• Perform other duties as provided by law or by Board authority.
The Vice Chair shall work closely with the Chair and shall assume whatever permitted duties the Chair may delegate.

Cross References:  1105  Membership

Legal References:  § 2-3-203, MCA  Meetings of public agencies and certain associations of public agencies to be open to public – exceptions
§ 20-3-321(2), MCA  Organization and officers
§20-3-351(1)(a), MCA Number of trustee positions in high school districts

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