

Policy Type:	Governance Process
Policy Title:	4.1 Governing Style

The School Board will govern lawfully, observing the principles of the Policy Governance model, with an emphasis on (a) outward vision rather than an internal preoccupation, (b) encouragement of diversity in viewpoints, (c) strategic leadership more than administrative detail, (d) clear distinction of School Board and Superintendent roles, (e) collective rather than individual decisions, and (f) the future rather than the past. Accordingly:

- 4.1.1 The School Board will cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The School Board, not the staff, will be responsible for excellence in governing. The School Board will be the initiator of policy, not merely a reactor to staff initiatives. The School Board will not allow the expertise/position of individual members to substitute for the judgment of the School Board, although the expertise of individual members may be used to enhance the understanding of the School Board as a body.
- 4.1.2 The School Board will direct and govern the district through the establishment of written policies reflecting the values of its owners. The School Board's major policy focus will be on the expected long-term student achievement goals of the district, not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those goals.
- 4.1.3 The School Board will enforce upon itself discipline as needed to govern with excellence including matters of attendance, preparation for meetings, policymaking, respect and fulfillment of roles, adherence to policy and assuring the continuance of governance capability. The School Board may change its Governance Process policies at any time, however, it will scrupulously observe those currently in force.
- 4.1.4 School Board development is ongoing and encompasses on-boarding of new School Board members, continuous development of each School Board Member, and on-going monitoring of School Board processes and procedures for optimal efficiency and effectiveness.
- 4.1.5 The School Board will allow no officer, individual, or committee of the School Board to hinder or serve as an excuse for not fulfilling group obligations.
- 4.1.6 The School Board will monitor and discuss the School Board's process and performance at each meeting. Self-monitoring will include comparison of School Board activity and discipline to policies in the Governance Process and Board-Management Delegation categories.

Adopted: 10/23/12

Revised: 03/24/15; 04/28/15