

Number of Members and Terms of Office

The board will consist of five members, elected by ballot by the registered voters of the district. Except as otherwise provided by law, board members will hold office for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. Terms of board members will be staggered as provided by law. Newly elected directors will take office at the first official meeting of the board of directors after the election results have been certified by the county auditor. Prior to beginning their term, directors will take and subscribe to an oath of office, and agree to serve within the framework of the policies of the South Kitsap School Board, and specifically to abide by the Board Members' Code of Conduct (GC- 7).

Annual Organizational Meeting

At the first regular meeting at which newly elected board members are seated in election years and at the first regular meeting in December in non-election years, the board will elect among its members a president and a vice president to serve one-year terms, or until their successors are elected.

In addition, a Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) representative, and a Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) delegate shall be elected to serve one-year terms, or until their successors are elected. In even-numbered years at the same meeting, a WSSDA legislative representative will be elected to serve a two-year term, or until a successor is elected.

Policies will continue from year to year and board to board until and unless the board changes them.

Vacancies

If a board member is unable to continue to serve as an officer, a replacement will be elected immediately for the unexpired term. In the absence of both the president and the vice president, the board will elect a president pro tempore who will perform the functions of the president during the latter's absence.

Superintendent

The superintendent act as board secretary and perform all the duties as outlined by law. In order to provide a record of the proceedings of each meeting of the board, the superintendent will appoint a recording secretary of the board.

Director Districts

It is the responsibility of the Board of Directors to establish the boundaries of the internal director districts of the school district, and to redistrict the director districts as necessary.

The board of directors, with the assistance of the administration, the educational service district, the state redistricting commission and consultants (e.g., attorneys, demographic experts, etc.) as appropriate, will prepare for the division or re-division of the district into director districts no later than eight months after any of the following:

1. Receipt of federal decennial census data from the redistricting commission;
2. Consolidation of the district with one or more other districts into one district;
3. Transfer of territory to or from the district or dissolution and annexation of the district; or
4. Approval by a majority of the district's registered voters of a proposition to divide the district into director districts.

The districting or redistricting plan shall be consistent with the criteria and adopted according to the procedure established under law.

Redistricting Procedure

No later than eight months after its receipt of federal decennial census data, the board of directors of the district shall prepare a plan for redistricting its internal or director districts. The plan shall be consistent with the following criteria:

1. The districts will be as nearly as possible equal in population;
2. The districts will be as compact as possible and consist of geographically contiguous area;
3. Population data may not be used for purposes of favoring or disfavoring any racial group or political party; and
4. The districts will, to the extent feasible and if not inconsistent with the basic enabling legislation for the district, coincide with natural boundaries and shall, to the extent possible, pre-serve existing communities of related and mutual interest.

During the adoption of its plan, the district shall ensure that full and reasonable public notice of its actions is provided. The district shall hold at least one public hearing on the redistricting plan at least one week before adoption of the plan. Any registered voter residing in an area affected by the redistricting plan may request review of the adopted local plan by the superior court of the county in which he or she resides, within fifteen days of the plan's adoption.

Any request for review must specify the reason or reasons alleged why the local plan is not consistent with the applicable redistricting criteria. The district may be joined as respondent. The superior court shall thereupon review the challenged plan for compliance with the applicable redistricting criteria.

If the superior court finds the plan to be consistent with the requirements of this section, the plan shall take effect immediately. If the superior court determines the plan does not meet the requirements of this section, in whole or in part, it shall remand the plan for further or corrective action within a specified and reasonable time period. If the superior court finds that any request for review is frivolous or has been filed solely for purposes of harassment or delay, it may impose appropriate sanctions on the party requesting review, including payment of attorneys' fees and costs to the respondent district.

Candidate Orientation

Candidates for appointment or election to the board are urged to attend public meetings of the board. All public information about the school system will be made available to them. Additionally, the board directs the superintendent to cooperate impartially with all candidates in providing them with information about school governance, board operations and school programs. Information to board candidates may include:

1. Notifying the candidate of open meetings of the board, and providing an agenda;
2. Meeting with the candidate to provide background information on the school system and board service and/or arranging such other candidate orientation sessions as the candidate may reasonably request;
3. Providing each candidate with access to publications of the district, materials from the Washington State School Directors' Association, the official minutes of board meetings and the district policy manual;
4. Reviewing the district budget and related fiscal documents; and
5. Providing each candidate with information regarding the Public Disclosure Act, Open Public Meetings Act and conflict of interest laws.

Adopted: March 16, 2022

Monitoring Method: Board self-assessment

Monitoring Frequency: Annually