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MSBA/MASA Model Policy 202

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202 GOVERNING BOARD OFFICERS

[Note: The provisions of this policy substantially reflect statutory requirements.]

I. PURPOSE

Governing board officers are charged with the duty of carrying out the responsibilities entrusted to them for the care, management, and control of the public schools of the school district. The purpose of this policy is to delineate those responsibilities.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The governing board shall meet annually and organize by selecting a chair, a clerk, a treasurer, and such other officers as determined by the governing board. At its option, the governing board may appoint a vice-chair to serve in the temporary absence of the chair.
- B. The governing board shall appoint a executive director who shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member of the governing board.

III. ORGANIZATION

The governing board shall meet annually on the first Monday in January, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and organize by selecting a chair, a clerk, a treasurer, and such other officers as determined by the governing board. These officers shall hold office for one year and until their successors are elected and qualify.

- A. The persons who perform the duties of clerk and treasurer need not be members of the governing board.
- B. The governing board by resolution may combine the duties of the offices of clerk and treasurer in a single person in the office of business affairs.

[Note: The organizational meeting is a good time for the governing board to plan for how to cancel and reschedule a board meeting. For example, the governing board could decide and include in the regular meeting schedule a provision that if the school district closes early due to bad weather and calls off evening activities, any governing board meeting scheduled for that evening will also be postponed and held at the same time and place the following evening.]

The organizational meeting is also a good time for the governing board to select the school district's legal counsel and the individuals authorized to contact legal counsel. Usually, the authorized contacts are the board chair, the executive director, and the

chief business official of the school district. In addition, many school districts authorize their human resources director, or a person exercising similar duties, to contact legal counsel.]

IV. OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Chair

1. The chair when present shall preside at all meetings of the governing board, countersign all orders upon the treasurer for claims allowed by the governing board, represent the school district in all actions, and perform all duties a chair usually performs.
2. In case of absence, inability, or refusal of the clerk to draw orders for the payment of money authorized by a vote of the majority of the governing board to be paid, the chair may draw the orders, or the office of the clerk may be declared vacant by the chair and treasurer and filled by appointment.

B. Treasurer

1. The treasurer shall deposit the funds of the school district in the official depository.
2. The treasurer shall make all reports which may be called for by the governing board and perform all duties a treasurer usually performs.
3. In the event there are insufficient funds on hand to pay valid orders presented to the treasurer, the treasurer shall receive, endorse, and process the orders in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 123B.12.

C. Clerk

1. The clerk shall keep a record of all meetings in the books provided.
2. Within three days after an election, the clerk shall notify all persons elected of their election.
3. On or before September 15 of each year, the clerk shall:
 - a. file with the governing board a report of the revenues, expenditures, and balances in each fund for the preceding fiscal year.
 - b. make and transmit to the commissioner certified reports, showing:
 - (1) revenues and expenditures in detail, and such other financial information required by law, rule, or as may be

called for by the commissioner;

(2) length of school term and enrollment and attendance by grades; and

(3) other items of information as called for by the commissioner.

4. The clerk shall enter into the clerk's record book copies of all reports and of the teachers' term reports, and of the proceedings of any meeting, and keep an itemized account of all expenses of the school district.
5. The clerk shall furnish to the county auditor, on or before September 30 of each year, an attested copy of the clerk's record, showing the amount of proposed property tax voted by the school district or the governing board for school purposes.
6. The clerk shall draw and sign all orders upon the treasurer for the payment of money for bills allowed by the governing board for salaries of officers and for teachers' wages and all claims, to be countersigned by the chair.
7. The clerk shall perform such duties as required by the Minnesota Election Law or other applicable laws relating to the conduct of elections.
8. The clerk shall perform the duties of the chair in the event of the chair's and the vice-chair's temporary absences.

D. Vice-Chair [Optional]

The vice-chair shall perform the duties of the chair in the event of the chair's temporary absence.

E. Executive Director

1. The executive director shall be an ex officio, nonvoting member of the governing board.
2. The executive director shall perform the following:
 - a. visit and supervise the schools in the school district, report and make recommendations about their condition when advisable or on request by the governing board;
 - b. recommend to the governing board employment and dismissal of teachers;
 - c. annually evaluate each school principal, if any, assigned responsibility for supervising a school building within the district;

- d. superintend school grading practices and examinations for promotions;
- e. make reports required by the commissioner; and
- f. perform other duties prescribed by the governing board.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123B.12 (Finance)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.14 (Officers)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.143 (Executive director)
Minn. Stat. § 126C.17 (Referendum Revenue)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 205A (School District Elections)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 101 (Legal Status of the School District)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 201 (Legal Status of the Governing board)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 203 (Operation of the Governing board – Governing Rules)
MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 1, School District Governance, Powers and Duties