# LEGAL STATUS AND OPERATION

## Legal Status

The board of directors of the Longview School District is the corporate entity established by the state of Washington to plan and direct all aspects of the district's operations to the end that students shall have ample opportunity to achieve their individual and collective learning needs. The policies of the board define the organization of the board and the manner of conducting its official business. The board's operating policies are those that the board adopts from time to time to facilitate the performance of its responsibilities.

## Organization

The corporate name of this school district is Longview School District No. 122, Cowlitz County, state of Washington. The district is classified as a first-class district and is operated in accordance with the laws and regulations pertaining to first-class districts.

In order to achieve its primary goal of providing each child with the necessary skills and attitudes, commensurate with his/her ability, to become effective citizens, the board shall exercise the full authority granted to it by the laws of the state. Its legal powers, duties and responsibilities are derived from state statute and regulation. Sources such as the school code (Title 28A RCW), attorney general's opinions and regulations of the state board of education (Title 180 WAC) and the state superintendent of public instruction (Title 392 WAC) delineate the legal powers, duties and responsibilities of the board.

## Number of Members and Terms of Office

The board shall consist of five members, elected by ballot by the registered voters of the district. Board members shall hold office for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified except as otherwise provided by law. Terms of board members shall be staggered as provided by law.

Newly-elected directors shall 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 shall take and subscribe to an oath of office.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Legal References: | RCW 28A.150.230 | Basic Education Act of 1977 |
| | RCW 28A.315.035 | Organization of school districts |
| | RCW 28A.343.300 | Director — Elections — Terms — Numbers |
| | RCW 28A.343.320 | Directors — Declaration of candidacy |
| | RCW 28A.343.330 | Directors — Ballots — Form |
| | RCW 28A.320.010 | Corporate powers |
| | RCW 28A.320.020 | Liability for debts and judgments |
| | RCW 28A.320.040 | Directors — Bylaws |
| | RCW 28A.343.360 | Directors — Oath of Office |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | RCW 29A.20.030 | Local officers, beginning of terms – Organization of district boards of directors |
| | RCW 29A.20.040 | Local elected officials, commencement of term and office |
| Cross References: | Board Policy 1111 | Oath of office |

**Adopted: September 28, 2009**