

ARTICLE II: SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

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POLICY 1-2.1 COMPOSITION OF THE POQUOSON CITY SCHOOL BOARD

The Poquoson City School Board shall be composed of seven (7) members appointed by the Poquoson City Council, two from each electoral precinct in Poquoson City and one at-large representative.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§22.1-28 through 22.1-57.5.

Adopted: November 2002

POLICY 1-2.2 QUALIFICATIONS OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Qualifications

At the time of his/her appointment to office, each member of the Poquoson City School Board must be a qualified voter and bona fide resident of the Poquoson City school division and district which they represent and meet any other criteria set forth in Virginia law. If a School Board member shall cease to be a resident of the school division the position on the School Board shall be deemed vacant. A School Board member who ceases to be a resident of his/her district will complete the term for which they were appointed but cannot be appointed for another term unless it is as a representative of his/her new district or the at-large position.

Ineligibility for Office

None of the officers listed in the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §22.1-30 shall serve as a member of the Poquoson City School Board, unless an exception provided in that section applies.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§22.1-29, 22.1-30.

Adopted: November 2002

Revised: April 2020

POLICY 1-2.3 APPOINTMENT OF, OATH BY, AND TERM FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Appointment

Poquoson City School Board members shall be appointed by the Poquoson City Council. Vacancies occurring in the membership of the School Board, other than by expiration of term, shall be filled as provided by applicable law.

Oath of Office

All Poquoson City School Board members shall qualify by taking the oath prescribed for the officers of the Commonwealth on or before the day their term of office begins. Failure to take the oath of office within the time allowed by law renders the office vacant.

Term of Office

School Board members shall be appointed for three-year terms. Should a member be appointed to fill an unexpired term, the appointment shall be for the unexpired portion of the term.

In the case of a school board member who is relieved from the duties of his office by reason of engaging in the war service of the United States when called forth by the Governor pursuant to the provisions of §44-75.1 or being called to active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States, such school board member shall submit to the school board a list of names of suitable persons to perform the duties of such office as acting school board member during the period in which the regular school board member is engaged in such war service or active duty, in which case the school board shall consider appointing and may appoint an acting school board member from such list of names. During such period, the acting school board member shall be vested with all the powers, authority, rights, and duties of the regular school board member for whom he is acting. However, if the school board decides not to appoint an acting member from the submitted list, the school board shall notify the submitting school board member in writing of the rationale for the school board's decision not to appoint an acting member from the list.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§2.2-2802, 15.2-1522, 15.2-1524, 22.1-29, 22.1-29.1, 22.1-30, 22.1-31, 22.1-50, 49-1, 49-3.

Adopted: November 2002

Revised: August 2017

POLICY 1-2.4 ORIENTATION/IN-SERVICE PROGRAMS

Orientation

Immediately following notification of appointment to the Poquoson City School Board, each new member shall be given an orientation program under the direction of the division superintendent. Every new School Board member shall be furnished a copy of the School Board's bylaws, policies and regulations, the current budget, a copy of Virginia school laws to include the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, the Virginia Public Records Act, and other such documents deemed essential to the operation of the Poquoson City Public Schools.

In-Service Programs

The School Board places a high priority on the importance of a planned and continuing program of in-service education for its members. The central purpose of the program is to enhance the quality and effectiveness of public school governance in the Poquoson community. The School Board shall plan specific in-service activities and work sessions designed to assist School Board members in their efforts to improve their skills as members of a policy-making body; to expand their knowledge about trends, issues, and new ideas affecting the educational activities of the public schools; and to deepen their insights into the nature of leadership in a modern democratic society.

School Board members shall participate annually in high-quality professional development activities at the state, local, or national levels on governance, including, but not limited to, personnel, policies and practices; curriculum and instruction; use of data in planning and decision making; and current issues in education.

Funds shall be budgeted annually to support this program. Individual School Board members shall be reimbursed for out-of-pocket costs incurred for participation in approved activities. The School Board shall retain the authority to approve or disapprove the participation of members in planned activities. The public shall be kept informed about the School Board's continuing in-service educational activities.

The School Board regards the following as the kinds of activities and services appropriate for implementing this policy:

1. participation in school board conferences, workshops and conventions conducted by the Virginia School Boards Association;
2. division-sponsored training sessions for School Board members;
3. subscriptions to publications addressed to the concerns of school board members; and
4. Virginia Department of Education seminars.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §22.1-253.13:5 (D); 42.76.1.

Adopted: November 2002

Revised: July 2004; July 2005; August 2006

POLICY 1-2.5 COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES

Compensation

The members of the Poquoson City School Board shall be compensated at a rate not to exceed the maximum salary as provided in accordance with Virginia law. School Board members shall be awarded a salary increase only as set forth in applicable Virginia law.

Expenses

Members of the School Board shall be reimbursed for actual expenses incidental to performance of official duties including but not limited to travel, food and lodging. School Board members may be reimbursed for private transportation at the same rate authorized for Poquoson City Public Schools employees, including travel to and from regular and special meetings.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§2.2-2823, 2.2-2825, 22.1-32, 22.1-55, 22.1-85.

Adopted: November 2002

POLICY 1-2.6 REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Any Poquoson City School Board member may be removed from office in accordance with the provisions of applicable law, including but not limited to, §§24.2-230 through 24.2-237 of the Code of Virginia.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§24.2-230 through 24.2-237.

Adopted: November 2002

POLICY 1-2.7 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

The opinions and concerns of the students attending the Poquoson City Public Schools are important to the Poquoson City School Board. Therefore, the School Board shall select a student representative to attend School Board meetings and communicate such opinions and concerns.

The principal of Poquoson High School shall receive applications from students to serve as the student representative to the School Board. From these applications, the School Board shall select the student representative and alternate. The student representative shall serve a one-year term.

The student representative shall serve in an advisory capacity and shall not vote. The student representative shall not attend closed meetings of the School Board. The School Board clerk shall provide the meeting agenda and other public materials to the student representative in advance of each open meeting. The student representative shall not have access to confidential information, including student or personnel records. The student representative is expected to attend all regular, open meetings and complete assignments for research and data collection when requested by the School Board.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §22.1-86.1.

Adopted: November 2002