

Policy Type: Governance Process**Board Committee Principles**

Board committees, when used, will be used to support the work of the Board and to reinforce the wholeness of the Board's job, and never to interfere with delegation of authority from the Board to the Superintendent.

Accordingly:

1. Board committees are to assist the Board to do its job, not to direct the staff. Committees ordinarily will assist the Board by preparing policy alternatives and implications for Board consideration. In keeping with the Board's broader focus, Board committees will not have direct dealings with staff operations unless specifically given that authority by the Board.
2. Board committees may not speak or act for the Board except when formally given such authority for specific and time-limited purposes. Expectations and authority will be carefully stated by the Board to assure that committee authority will not conflict with authority delegated to the Superintendent.
3. Board committees may not exercise authority over the Superintendent or staff. Because the Superintendent works for the full Board, any direction to the Superintendent related to a committee recommendation must come from the full Board.
4. This policy applies only to committees which are formed by Board action, whether or not the committees include Board members. It does not apply to committees formed under the authority of the Superintendent.
5. Standing Committees serve throughout the year to accomplish on-going work as delineated in GP-7. Ad Hoc Committees generally serve for less than one year to accomplish a specific task and are terminated when the task is completed.
6. Standing Board Committees will serve for a term of one year. Annually, the committees will be evaluated by the Board and may be reinstated, modified or discontinued by consensus of the Board. Membership on committees expires at the time of reorganization. Standing committees appointed mid-year will serve until the time of reorganization.
7. Committee meetings are open to the public and as such, proper notification and operation as spelled out under the North Dakota open meeting laws must be followed.

Monitoring Method: *Board self-assessment*
Monitoring Frequency: *Annually in Second Quarter*

Fargo Public Schools Board of Education