

**GOVERNANCE STANDARDS**

The Governing Board expects itself to act in the best interests of every student in the district within the legal confines established by law and the fiscal confines established by the budget. The Board shall govern the district responsibly and uphold the highest standards of ethical conduct.

In order to set the direction for the district, provide a high quality education to each student, ensure proper accountability and oversight of the district and the Superintendent, and offer community leadership on behalf of the district and public education, the Board expects itself to have a unity of purpose and to:

1. Keep the district focused on learning and achievement for all students
2. Communicate a common vision
3. Operate openly, with trust and integrity
4. Govern in a dignified and professional manner, treating everyone with civility and respect
5. Govern within Board-adopted policies and procedures
6. Take collective responsibility for the Board's performance
7. Periodically evaluate its own effectiveness
8. Ensure opportunities for the diverse range of views in the community to inform Board deliberations

In fulfilling its role, the Board is responsible for:

1. Involving the community, parents/guardians, students, and staff in regularly developing or updating a common vision for the district focused on learning and achievement and responsive to the needs of all students
2. Adopting and updating policies consistent with law and the district's vision and goals
3. Maintaining accountability for student learning by adopting curricula and monitoring student progress
4. Hiring and supporting the Superintendent so that the vision, goals, and policies of the district can be implemented
5. Conducting regular and timely evaluations of the Superintendent based on the vision, goals, and performance of the district, and ensuring that the Superintendent holds district

personnel accountable

6. Adopting a fiscally responsible budget based on the district's vision and goals, and regularly monitoring the fiscal health of the district
7. Ensuring that a safe and appropriate educational environment is provided to all students
8. Establishing a framework for the district's collective bargaining process and adopting responsible agreements
9. Providing community leadership on educational issues and advocating on behalf of students and public education at the local, state, and federal levels

In addition, each individual Board member is expected to:

1. Keep learning and achievement for all students as the primary focus
2. Value, support, and advocate for public education
3. Recognize and respect differences of perspective and style on the Board and among staff, students, parents/guardians, and the community
4. Act with dignity, and understand the implications of demeanor and behavior
5. Keep confidential matters confidential
6. Participate in professional development and commit the time and energy necessary to be an informed and effective leader
7. Understand the distinctions between Board and staff roles, and refrain from performing management functions that are the responsibility of the Superintendent and staff
8. Understand that authority rests with the Board as a whole and not with individuals