

GOVERNANCE POLICY GP-1

GOVERNING MODEL OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PURPOSE

It is the mission of the Board of Trustees (Board) to serve as stewards of the Clark County School District (District) to create an education system where all students achieve academic success, develop personal and civic responsibility, and achieve workforce and college readiness. The intent of this Board Policy is to outline the basic principles of the governing mission of the Board. By engaging in the Balanced Governance Model, the Board intends to set and monitor high end-goals for student learning and be knowledgeable about the means used to reach those ends.

All provisions directly relating to Balanced Governance in all Board Policies apply only during the time that the Board adopts and operates under the Balanced Governance Model. If at any time the Board adopts a different model of governance, any provision directly relating to Balanced Governance becomes void. In addition, nothing contained in Board Policies affects or alters the terms of any contractual agreement between the Board/District and Dr. Thomas Alsbury/Balanced Governance Solutions.

Through policy, the Board sets District vision and direction. The Superintendent works within the boundaries of Board-established policies to direct resources in a way that is designed to achieve the vision set by the Board.

DEFINITIONS

1. “Balanced Governance” is a governance model that reinforces the Trustee’s role of informed oversight by ensuring a “balance” of governance that discourages micromanagement of the Superintendent and District employees while setting out a constructive role for Trustees with “informed oversight”.
2. “Informed oversight” is avoiding any tendency for Trustees to become disengaged and abdicate their oversight responsibilities to the Superintendent or, conversely, to engage in over-reach into the management duties of the Superintendent or employees.

POLICY

1. Governance Commitment. The Board, on behalf of the people of Clark County and for the benefit of students and families of the District, commits to adopt the Balanced Governance Model in order to:
 - a. Provide informed oversight to ensure the District achieves appropriate and measurable progress toward fulfilling the District’s Vision, Strategic Plan, Balanced Governance Model Standards, and advance the health, safety, and well-being of students and staff;
 - b. Equip Trustees to better dialogue with community stakeholders;
 - c. Craft targeted policy language that intelligently oversees formative progress on adopted processes and programs; and

d. Function as stewards of District resources.

2. Functional Governance. The Board, as the functional governing body of the District, is responsible for ensuring that legal responsibilities are met while simultaneously supporting the systemwide pursuit of educational excellence:

- a. Through policy, sets District vision and establishes operational boundaries for the Superintendent and staff;
- b. Strives to ensure that the District's central focus is on promoting student learning, advancing the health, safety, and well-being of students and staff, and promotes the acquisition of durable student skills (e.g., civic engagement, critical reasoning, etc.) and the development of key attributes (e.g., integrity, resilience, etc.);
- c. Hires a Superintendent to serve as Chief Executive Officer of the District, works in close partnership with the Superintendent, ensures that clear, detailed Superintendent performance standards are set, and evaluates Superintendent performance against the standards at least annually. Superintendent performance standards and their evaluation shall be linked to the District Vision, Strategic Plan, and, as expressly applicable to the Superintendent, the Balanced Governance Model Standards and Practices;
- d. Strives to ensure the District fulfills its legal responsibility under applicable federal and state law;
- e. Establishes and monitors the District's educational, financial, and administrative performance against clearly defined goals - this includes annual approval of the District budget;
- f. Strives to ensure that the District reflects transparency and accountability; and relationships with key constituents are meaningful and contribute to the implementation and success of the District's vision and strategic plan;
- g. Advocates for all students, the District, and public education generally in the legislative arena and other appropriate forums; and
- h. Strives to ensure that the District possesses the financial and other resources necessary to realize its vision and carry out its mission fully in Clark County.

3. Governing Style. The Board shall govern lawfully with an emphasis on Balanced Governance Model and strategic leadership on behalf of students. The Board is accountable to the people of Clark County for providing informed oversight to ensure the competent, conscientious, and effective accomplishment of the District's Vision, Strategic Plan, and Balanced Governance Model Standards and Practices, focused on improved learning for all students. Accordingly, the Board shall:

- a. Practice Balanced Governance by cultivating and enforcing a balance between the oversight role of the Board and the administrative role of the Superintendent. Accordingly, the Board shall use its knowledge of

community needs and their judgment as to the District's progress on the District Vision, Strategic Plan, and Balanced Governance Model Standards and Practices to initiate and/or approve new or revised policy. The Board shall consistently use relevant data and expertise regarding federal, state, contractual, and employee needs, provided by the Superintendent, in initiating and requesting new policy and policy revision, and in consideration of policy approval.

- b. Cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The Board shall consider varied viewpoints from the community and employees, but not substitute individual expertise or interests for the judgment of the Board. Similarly, while the expertise of individual Trustees is recognized and may enhance the understanding of the Board decisions shall be made only as a full Board. Individual members of the Board statutorily hold no individual authority and therefore should not be provided, through policy or practice, undue influence on policy and/or program development, nor given deference in Board discussion, nor undue influence in Board decision making.
- c. Govern the organization with informed oversight through the careful establishment of broadly written policies, which reflect the needs of the District's students and the community's values and perspectives. The Board's major policy focus shall be on addressing:
 - i. Meeting the educational interests of all students;
 - ii. Supporting progress toward the District's Vision, Strategic Plan, and Balanced Governance Model Standards and Practices, and improve learning for all students; and
 - iii. Locally defined needs and issues.
- d. Provide informed oversight through the Superintendent, ensuring the Board is knowledgeable of administrative and programmatic means of attaining those effects. However, the Board shall delegate the implementation of policy, administrative regulations, and procedures to the Superintendent. By doing so, the Board shall maintain a balanced role with the Superintendent.
- e. Receive information from the Superintendent that reflects the progress or the need for improvement toward the District Vision, Strategic Plan, and Balanced Governance Model Standards and Practices. The Board may craft tracking and reporting protocols within policy for the Superintendent to ensure quality control and the necessary data to practice informed oversight. Superintendent or employee reporting to the Board during Board meetings shall, at a minimum, follow the Balanced Governance Model tracking and reporting protocols.
- f. Hold the Superintendent responsible for acting on and communicating timely updates to Board members regarding requests for information or reports of community or employee concerns.

- g. Govern with excellence in matters such as attendance, preparation for meetings, policy-making principles, respect of roles, adherence to the Balanced Governance Model Standards, and personal adherence to the Balanced Governance Model Individual Board Member Practices.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Revision	Modification
05.07.26	1.0	Adopted