HOW TO BE A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

Serving on a school board is more than just a volunteer role; it's a chance to make a lasting impact on the success of each student. More than 2,400 dedicated individuals serve as school board members for Minnesota's 331 public school districts. Every two years, board members are elected by voters for their local district to govern with integrity for a term of four years.



Eligibility: To run for your local school board, on the date of the election, you must be a U.S. citizen; at least 21 years of age; a resident of the school district 30 days prior to the election; a registered voter in the school district where you intend to run; and not be convicted of a felony.

What DO School Board Members Do?

- The board governs the district's work at the highest level by establishing policies and overseeing the superintendent's performance.
- The board monitors the performance of the superintendent and student success. It also sets new goals for the superintendent aligned to the district's strategic plan.
- The board approves the district's budget.
- The board hires and evaluates the superintendent.

What DON'T School Board Members Do?

- The board does not manage day-to-day operations.
- The board does not oversee district communications to parents and students.
- No single board member has any power outside of a legally called school board meeting. During such meetings, the school board votes in trust with the entire local community.

GOOD GOVERNANCE PRACTICES TO FULFILL THESE CORE RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

- Setting the direction and vision of school district
- Creating, reviewing and amending school policy
- Connecting with the community
- Employing and evaluating the superintendent
- Controlling the expenditure and receipt of school funds
- Delegating authority
- Determining matters related to school employees and contractors
- Directing the acquisition and disposal of school property
- Monitoring district performance and goals
- Develop a Professional Development plan for individual and school board