



BOARD POLICY #3 – ROLE OF SCHOOL BOARD

Mountain View School Division Board of Trustees ensures that the values, aspirations and economic resource capacities under its jurisdiction are reflected within the actions of the division. Specific areas of responsibility are outlined below:

1. Accountability to Provincial Government

- Act in accordance with statutory requirements to implement Provincial and educational standards and policies
- Perform Board functions required by governing legislation and existing Board policy
 - Legislation and existing Board policy impacts profoundly on the day to day business of the Board. The Board cannot make decisions that contravene existing legislation or Board policy.

2. Accountability to the Community

- Focus decisions to optimize student learning while balancing educational needs with available resources. The Board makes decisions that respect community values and are rooted in sound educational research with efficient and effective use of resources.
- Report to community
 - The Board reports Division results to the community, as mandated by the provincial government.
- Establish processes and provide opportunities for community input
 - Input from community stakeholders is required from time to time in order to assist the Board of Trustees in making decisions. The Board of Trustees will ensure these processes are established in order to allow this to take place.
- Active with community organizations and agencies in building support for public education
- Develop processes for the hearing of appeals as required by statute and/or Board policy
 - The Board of Trustees is the final mechanism by which appeals may be heard and the Board has developed appeal procedures (see Board Procedures – Appeal Procedures).
- Model a culture of respect and integrity
 - The Board of Trustees strongly believes the development of an atmosphere of respect and integrity is crucial in conducting the business of Mountain View School Division. This will be reflected in every aspect of our day-to-day operations (see Board Policy #4 - Trustee Code of Conduct).

3. Setting Strategic Direction

- Provide overall direction for the Division by establishing the mission, vision and value statements; strategic direction(s); and expected outcomes

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- The development of a mission statement, a vision statement, value statements and strategic direction(s) and outcomes for Mountain View School Division is considered one of the most important components of the Board of Trustees' mandate.

4. Policy

- Develop, monitor and maintain Board policy
 - Policy is integral to the efficient and effective operation of Mountain View School Division. Board policies are developed, monitored and maintained to reflect the actions of the Board and to describe the expectations of Senior Administration.

5. Appoint the Superintendent/CEO

- Appoint the Superintendent/CEO, set remuneration, define duties and conduct regular evaluations.

6. Board Development and Succession Planning

- The Board regularly evaluates board effectiveness through monitoring of policy and the Board's self-evaluation process (see Board Procedures – Board Evaluation and Development).

All Trustees engage in the pursuit of board excellence through board development and trustee development training and education.

The Board encourages a qualified slate of candidates for trustee elections and provides the authority for Senior Administration to inform the public of candidates and election issues.

7. Fiscal

As per the Manitoba Public School Act, the Board of Trustees is responsible for:

- Determining budget annually and ensure resources are allocated to achieve desired results
- Reviewing and approving annually the five year capital plan for submission to the Public Schools' Finance Board
- Approving the appointment of the external auditor;
- Receiving audit report and management letter and ensuring quality indicators are met
- Monitoring fiscal management of the Division
- Ratifying Memoranda of Agreement with bargaining units
- Setting Trustee remuneration and expense reimbursement

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Board Member Authority

Because all powers of the Board of Trustees lie in its action as a group, individual Board members exercise their authority over division affairs only as they vote to take action at a legal meeting of the Board. In other instances, an individual Board member, including the chairperson, shall have power only when the Board, by vote, has delegated authority to him or her.

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