

BOARD EFFECTIVENESS

1.0 Purpose

The Board acknowledges the importance of the establishment of direct links between it and local school improvement councils, faculty senates and the community at large. In order to be effective the Board must receive meaningful information, comments and suggestions regarding its policies and governance.

2.0 Direct Links between the Board and Local School Improvement Councils

To enable the Board to receive information, comments and suggestions directly from local school improvement councils regarding broad guidelines for oversight procedures, standards of accountability and planning for future needs, the following direct links are established between the Board and its local school improvement councils.

2.1 Annual Meeting with Local School Improvement Councils. The Board shall conduct meetings with all local school improvement councils at dates, times and places fixed at its first meeting in July of each year. At least a quorum of the full membership of each local improvement council shall be required to attend such meetings.

2.2 Annual Meeting Agenda. At least 30 days before a local school improvement council's annual meeting with the Board, the Board shall develop and submit to the local school improvement council an agenda for the meeting. The agenda shall identify the items which the council chairperson or designee is to address at the meeting. The items shall include, but need not be limited to, items designated by the Board from the report submitted to the terms of this policy, as well as one or more of the following issues: school performance, curriculum, status of the school in meeting the unified school improvement plan and status of the school in meeting the county plan.

2.3 Requests for Information. Throughout the year, the Board may make written requests for information from local school improvement councils or hold community forums to receive input from the affected community as the Board considers necessary.

2.4 Additional Meetings. In its discretion, the Board may hold additional meetings with any local school improvement council. In particular, the Board may schedule additional meetings with the local school improvement council for any low performing school.

2.5 Annual Report. At the conclusion of each school year, the Superintendent shall prepare, for adoption by the Board, a report concerning the meeting or meetings held with the local school improvement councils during the school year. In drafting the report, the Superintendent shall consult with the councils and may request their assistance. Upon approval by the Board and no later than September 1 of each year, the report, including any amendments made by the Board, shall be delivered by the Superintendent to the West Virginia Board of Education.

3.0 Direct Links between the Board and Faculty Senates

To enable to the Board to receive information, comments and suggestions directly from faculty senates regarding broad guidelines for oversight procedures, standards of accountability and planning for future needs, the following direct links are established between the Board and its faculty senates.

3.1 Surveys of Faculty Senates. Surveys may be used as a formal means to obtain information or to evaluate board programs or proposed board programs, or to survey or study issues.

3.2 Delegations at Board Meetings. Faculty Senate representatives may elect to speak as delegations at any regular board meeting or any special board meeting at which the topic of the delegate's presentation is on the board's agenda for discussion at that meeting.

3.4 Forums Involving Faculty Senates. The Board may convene forums of faculty senates in regard to an issue or to receive comments or information. Meeting structure is more formal in forums than in town meetings.

3.5 Record of Suggestions. A record shall be kept by the Superintendent of all suggestions made at meetings between the Board and Local School Improvement Councils and Faculty Senates regarding board guidelines for oversight procedures, standards of accountability and planning for future needs. The record shall be considered, at least annually, by the Board to identify suggestions worthy of further consideration.

4.0 Direct Links between the Board and the Community At Large.

The following steps may be taken to develop direct links between the Board and the community at large, allow for community involvement at regular board meetings and regularly communicate with the public regarding important issues.

4.1 Board Meetings Involving the Community At Large. A portion or portions of regular meetings (or special meetings) may be devoted to hearing from the community at large or sub-groups of the community. For purposes of effective meetings

management, the Board should itemize what it expects from the community at large of sub-groups. Individuals may appear to speak at Board meetings. A sign-up sheet is available. Individuals may sign-up to speak up until five (5) minutes before the regular meeting begins. Speakers are allotted five (5) minutes to speak on their topic. However, topics will not be discussed. If the Board so wishes, the request can be placed on the next Board of Education agenda.

4.2 Linkages with the Community at Large Based on Designation. The Board may appoint a member of the board (or members of the board) and/or superintendent to provide or receive certain communications from the community at large or sub-groups of the community. This is not intended to prevent the public from communicating with other board members on matters of concern. The Board of Education meetings are live-streamed on the county's website as well as on the Hampshire Review's website.

5.0 Personnel Policy Review

The Superintendent shall periodically provide a report to the Board that identifies all personnel policies. The report shall identify any policy deficiencies that result in a lack of effectiveness.

6.0 Broad Guidelines for the School District

The Board recognizes its responsibility to provide broad guidelines for the school district, including the establishment of specific oversight procedures, development and implementation of standards of accountability and development of long-range plans to meet future needs.

7.0 Long-Range Plans

The Board shall schedule at least one special meeting (work session) on an annual basis that is dedicated to long range planning. Such long range planning shall include plans to meet future needs relative to school board effectiveness.

8.0 Use of Data in Decision Making

The Superintendent shall provide reports that include school-based accreditation and performance data and other relevant data to the Board in a timely basis. Whenever the Board is engaged in decision making that involves meeting the education goals of the State and such other goals as the Board may establish, the Superintendent shall reference the aforesaid data as requested in any recommendations made to the Board.

AUTHORITY: WV Code §18-5-14

ADOPTED: _____

REVISED: _____