



SD 42 POLICY: 2301

ROLE OF THE BOARD

The Board of Education of School District No. 42 (Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows) is governed by an elected Board of Education (“the Board”). The Board is comprised of seven locally elected trustees. Five trustees are elected from the City of Maple Ridge and two trustees are elected from the City of Pitt Meadows. Trustees are elected for a term prescribed in Section 35 of the School Act.

The Board’s general role is to foster the school district’s short- and long-term success and to govern the school district in accordance with the duties and responsibilities outlined in the School Act. In the discharge of its mandate, the Board oversees the affairs of the school district, supervises management, which is responsible for the day-to-day operations and, through the Superintendent and Chief Executive Officer (“the Superintendent”), sets the standards of organizational conduct.

In carrying out these duties, the Board’s role in formulation of policies, definition of broad strategic directions, making decisions that it is legally required to make and performance monitoring, is separate from the day-to-day management of the school district. This responsibility resides with the Superintendent who leads the school district in achieving board-approved directions and in turn recommends new initiatives to the Board.

The Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer are the Board’s two corporate executive officers – together they guide implementation of all board decisions through the education and business services of the district. The Board as a collective entity shall interact primarily with the Superintendent and the Secretary Treasurer. Outside Board meetings, a trustee has no more authority than any individual from the community, except when that member has been delegated certain duties and powers by the Board. Individual trustees must not direct or interfere with the work of the Superintendent and individual staff members.

The Board provides leadership with specific responsibility to:

- Select, assess, compensate and (if necessary) replace the Superintendent and plan for Superintendent succession;
- Establish a vision and broad strategic priorities;
- Establish policies and approve bylaws;
- Ensure financial sustainability and the effective and efficient use of school district resources;
- Ensure compliance with legal and regulatory requirements;
- Monitor the school district’s performance against agreed goals and objectives;
- Establish and maintain relationships with all levels of government, partner and community groups;
- All other specific responsibilities outlined in the School Act, Regulations and related Ministerial Orders.

APPROVED: April 30, 2014

REVIEWED: January 2021