



To nurture curiosity, resilience and joy in all

121 ROLE OF TRUSTEES

The role of Trustees is to contribute to the Board as it carries out its mandate and strategic plan. The oath of office taken by each Trustee when they assume office binds the individual to work diligently and faithfully in support of public education.

The *School Act* gives no individual authority to Trustees. As members of the corporate Board, Trustees are accountable to the public for the collective decisions of the Board, and for the delivery and quality of educational services. A Trustee must serve the community as an elected representative, but the Trustee's primary task is to act as a member of a corporate board. While Trustees act as representatives of their community, their primary role is to participate in policy-making and strategic planning that are in the interests of all the District's students and are grounded in promoting student achievement and well-being.

The decisions of the Board in a properly constituted meeting are those of the corporation. A Trustee who is given corporate authority to act on behalf of the Board may carry out duties individually, but only as an agent of the Board. A Trustee acting individually has only the authority and status of any other citizen of the District.

Trustees bring a range of skills, experience, knowledge, values, beliefs and opinions to their role. Their background does not necessarily include teaching, administration, or any other aspect of education. This diversity helps Trustees provide a balance between the interests of a broader community and the interests of those involved in the delivery of education.

[DRAFTING NOTE, THE MATERIALS BELOW WILL MOVE TO A NEW POLICY ENTITLED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING]

Specific Responsibilities of Individual Trustees

1. Become familiar with District policies and procedures, meeting agendas, and reports in order to participate in Board business.
2. Participate in, and contribute to, the decisions of the Board in order to provide the best solutions possible for the education of students within the District.



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3. Support the decisions of the Board and monitor progress to ensure decisions are implemented.
4. Refer queries, or issues and problems not covered by Board policy, to the Board for corporate discussion, decision or delegation.
5. Refer queries, issues or problems raised by a parent or community member about a teacher or classroom, to the teacher or about a principal or a school, to the principal and, where appropriate, inform the Superintendent.
6. Bring to the attention of the Board any issues that may significantly affect the District and interpret the needs of the community to the Board.
7. Exercise authority within defined limits when delegated such responsibility.
8. Participate in Board/Trustee professional learning sessions so the quality of leadership and governance in the District is enhanced.
9. Share the materials and ideas gained with fellow Trustees at the Board meeting immediately following a Trustee development activity.
10. Stay current with respect to local, regional, provincial, national and international educational issues and trends.
11. Strive to develop a positive and respectful learning and working culture both within the Board and the District.
12. Act as a liaison to assigned schools.
13. Attend District or school events when invited and when possible.
14. Become familiar with, and adhere to, the Trustee Code of Conduct.
15. Participate in Board Committees as assigned by the Board Chair.