



8500

Board Director Development

Policy 8500

Original Adoption: (formerly 8220) 11/12/1991

Effective Date: 01/10/2018

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Review Date: 07/18/2012

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to guide Board and Board Director training, development and self-evaluation necessary in order to fulfill their obligation to be prepared for their duties. Board members shall be prepared to manage board governance, budget planning and monitoring, and issues arising due to their identity as employers.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. In order to perform their responsibilities to the electorate, the State and the students, and in recognition of the need for training and development for its directors, the Board encourages its directors to participate in professional development activities.

B. Directors have an obligation to:

1. become informed on the proper duties and functions of a school board member,
2. become familiar with issues that may affect the school district,
3. acquire a basic understanding of school finance, and
4. acquire sufficient knowledge to comply with federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and school district policies.

C. The Board shall determine at its January board meeting a proposed two-year calendar of board training. A minimum of two (2) training sessions per calendar year shall be established and may include, but are not limited to topics such as:

1. Board Governance

- a. Activities designed to improve the workings of the board as a whole, which may include, but is not limited to the following:
 - (i) communications
 - (ii) teamwork
 - (iii) shared decision making processes
 - (iv) effective school boards
 - (v) leadership
 - (vi) shared responsibility

2. Budget planning and monitoring, including, but not limited to:

- a. Capital Planning and budgeting
- b. School Finance, Levy determinations
- c. Specific Budget allocations (Integration, Transportation, Nutrition, Special Education, Community Education, Compensatory funding)

3. Employer Issues

- a. Negotiation of Collective Bargaining Agreements
 - b. Employee Discipline
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4. Other topics chosen by the board.

- D. Occasionally, it may be appropriate for school board Directors to travel out of state to fulfill their obligations.
- E. Board Directors are expected to report back to the Board with materials of interest gathered at out of district meetings and workshops attended by individual members.
- F. Directors shall engage annually in an evaluation of their collective performance as a school board. The evaluation shall be a used to guide further development sought by the Board.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. § 123B.09, Subdivision 2 (School Board Member Training)

Cross References:

MPS Policy 3331 (Travel Expenses-Non Employees)

MPS Policy 8410 (Duties of Directors)

MPS Policy 8505 (Director Travel)