

BOARD POLICY



POLICY: GP 9

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT IN GOVERNANCE

POLICY STATEMENT

Consistent with its commitment to excellence in governance, the board will invest in its governance capacity.

1. Individuals considering running for board membership shall be provided with information, upon request, that clearly outlines the role of the board, the necessary qualifications and the board's expectations of board members.
2. Board of Trustees' skills, methods, and support will be sufficient to assure governing with excellence.
 - A. New board members shall receive a complete orientation to ensure familiarity with the organization's issues and structure, and the board's process of governance. This shall include:
 - The role of the Board of Trustees in governance.
 - A review of the Trustee's Policy Governance model and Board policies.
 - An overview of the Board of Trustees' calendar.
 - Background information on general operations of the school board including structure, roles, relationships and communication protocols.
 - Primary legislation affecting the school board as well as relevant regulation, Ministerial guidelines and directive.
 - The organization's annual revenue, expenses and audited financial statement.
 - The Board of Trustees relationship with its ownership and with the First Nations, municipal, provincial and federal bodies who are involved in supporting Catholic education.
 - B. Board members shall have ongoing opportunity for continued education to enhance their governance capabilities.
 - C. Outreach methods will be used as needed to ensure the board's ability to understand owner viewpoints and values, in particular related to Ends issues.
 - D. Outside monitoring assistance may be arranged so that the Board of Trustees can exercise confident control over organizational performance. This includes but is not limited to fiscal audit.
3. Costs will be prudently incurred, though not at the expense of endangering the development and maintenance of superior capability. Monies will be included in the budget each year for:
 - a. Training, including attendance at conferences and workshops.
 - b. Audit and other third party monitoring of organizational performance.
 - c. Surveys, focus groups, opinion analyses, and meeting costs.
 - d. Meetings of the Board and its Committees.
 - e. Trustee association fees.
 - f. Trustee travel insurance

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4. The honoraria for trustees will be determined annually in accordance with Ministry of Education regulations governing honoraria, to a maximum as determined by the applicable regulations.
5. The Board of Trustees may approve in the budget a supplementary allowance to cover expenses relating to ex-officio functions of the Chair and/or the Vice-Chairperson.
6. The board will use its governance means policies as measurable standards against which the board's performance can be evaluated.
 - A. At the beginning of each meeting, the Board of Trustees will appoint someone to compare Board activity and discipline to policies in the 'Governance Process' and 'Board-Management Delegation' categories.
 - B. Once every two years under the leadership of the Chair, the Board of Trustees will conduct a self-evaluation monitoring of its performance in relation to its 'Governance Process' and 'Board-Management Delegation' policies. As a result of this evaluation, the Board will include in its governance action plan specific goals and objectives for improvement of identified areas.

Monitoring: March	Method: Internal	Frequency: Biennial
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Chair of the Board



Secretary of the Board