150 – <u>Board Governance Process</u>

The job of the Board is to serve students, represent the community through responsible stewardship and lead the district by determining and demanding appropriate and excellent school district performance. The Board will govern with emphasis on school district vision rather than on interpersonal issues of the Board; encourage diversity in viewpoints; focus on strategic leadership rather than administrative detail; observe clear distinction between Board and superintendent roles; make collaborative decisions; exhibit future orientation rather than past or present; and govern proactively rather than reactively.

Accordingly:

- The Board will cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The Board will work in partnership with the superintendent, staff, students, parents and the community. The Board, not the superintendent or staff, will be responsible for excellence in governing. The Board will use the expertise of individual Board members to enhance the ability of the Board as a body but will not substitute individual judgments for the Board's collective values.
- 2. The Board will hold itself accountable for continual governance excellence. This self-discipline will apply to attendance, preparation for meetings, policy-making principles, and respect of roles.
- 3. The Board will direct, control and inspire the district through the careful establishment of written policies reflecting the Board's values and perspectives. The Board's major policy focus will be on the intended long-term benefits for students and not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those benefits.
- 4. Continuous Board development will include orientation of new members and potential candidates in the Board's governance process and periodic Board discussion and evaluation of process to assure continued improvement.
- 5. Board members will be encouraged to attend the State School Board Convention each year. Board members are eligible to attend one National convention during the first two years of a term or at the discretion of the Board. Board members attending any training or conventions will be expected to give a brief report to the Board at a regular Board of Education meeting.
- 6. The Board will allow no officer, individual, or committee of the Board to hinder or be an excuse for not fulfilling its commitments.

The Board will self-monitor its process and performance on a regular basis. Self-monitoring will include comparison of Board activity and discipline to board governance and board-superintendent relationship policies.

LEGAL REF.: Sections 120.12 and 120.13 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

CROSS REF: 110, Board Governance Commitment; 151, Board Policy Development, Adoption and Revision; 162, Board Member Candidate/New Board Member Orientation; 165, Board Members' Code of Conduct; 165.1, Board Member Conflict of Interest; 171.2, Agenda Planning; and, 185, Board Committees.