



SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION

Board Policy #2 Governance Model

Board Governance

The Board operates as a unified body and, as the elected leader of the School Division, it promotes and reinforces the goals of student learning and student well-being. The role of the Board is governance. The Board provides leadership by setting goals, making informed decisions, and ensuring that its Policy Manual is current, relevant and adhered to. The Board's collective contribution is vital in its guidance and leadership of the School Division. Individual trustees contribute as capable governors within the Board.

Policy Leadership as a Governance Model

The Board provides leadership for the School Division. In accordance with the Public Schools Act, **only** the Board can adopt new policies or revise existing ones. Policies are clearly worded and re-examined regularly to ensure that the desired results are being achieved within the school division.

Policies are regularly reviewed to ensure that they possess the necessary framework for senior administration to demonstrate achievement of the goals established by the Board and to hold the Superintendent accountable for compliance with Board policies.

The School Division is committed to following a leadership model that:

- focuses on and is dedicated to effective governance;
- focuses on high level decisions rather than the details of daily activities and operations;
- delegates administrative and managerial authority to the Superintendent, excluding those exemptions defined in Board policy;
- annually approves a divisional operating budget consistent with priorities and goals defined in Board policies and the Board's Divisional Plan;
- establishes procedures for evaluating Board policy compliance and ties this to the performance evaluation of the Board and the Superintendent;
- reassesses its vision and mission and realigns policies as necessary in response to community engagement and input as well as to ongoing advice provided by educational and pedagogical experts; and
- provides for continuous improvement through the support of professional development for the Board and senior administration.

By practicing effective governance, the Board ensures that policy remains the foundation for action and decision-making within the School Division.