

Policy 9

BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

The Board will give consideration to naming representatives to various external committees, agencies and organizations. Such representation is established at the discretion of the Board to facilitate the exchange of information on matters of mutual concern and/or to discuss possible agreements between the District and other organizations.

The Board will determine the terms of reference for each representative. The Board shall be guided by the following principles when naming representatives to other organizations:

- The Board's decision-making role can be exercised only by the Board as a whole, not by an individual Trustee or committee;
- The Board's function is governance, rather than administration;
- Responsibilities placed on Trustees are to be closely related to the Board's central role as per Policy 2 Role of the Board.

The Superintendent may appoint staff to work with the representative and shall determine the roles, responsibilities and reporting requirements of resource personnel.

The following organizations/committees of Policy 9 appendix will have Board representation as identified normally at the Inaugural Meeting or alternatively at a subsequent annual meeting of the Board.

External Appointments

1. British Columbia School Trustees Association (BCSTA) Provincial Council

1.1. Purpose of the Provincial Council

- 1.1.1. Act as a forum for discussion of relevant, timely and emerging issues identified from individual Boards, BCSTA Board of Directors, Ministry of Education and other sources.
- 1.1.2. Discuss, and/or develop, policy issues for submission at the Annual General Meeting.
- 1.1.3. Establish interim policies of the Association between general meetings.
- 1.1.4. Address matters as outlined in BCSTA bylaws, including Association budget approval.
- 1.1.5. Act on action requests from BCSTA Board of Directors.

Policy 9

1.2. Powers and Duties of the Board BCSTA Provincial Council Representative

- 1.2.1. Attend Provincial Council meetings.
- 1.2.2. Represent the Board's positions and interests at the provincial level.
- 1.2.3. Communicate to the Board the work of the Provincial Council.
- 1.2.4. Bring recommendations to the Board as and when necessary.
- 1.2.5. Build positive relationships.

1.3. Membership

- 1.3.1. One (1) Trustee; one (1) alternate.

1.4. Meetings

- 1.4.1. As called by Provincial Council. (Usually 4 per year, one at the AGM)

2. British Columbia Public School Employers' Association (BCPSEA)

2.1. Purpose of the BCPSEA

- 2.1.1. Act as the accredited bargaining agent for the BCSTA's members.
- 2.1.2. Assist in carrying out any objectives and strategic directions established by the Public Sector Employers' Council.
- 2.1.3. Coordinate collective bargaining objectives, benefit administration, human resource practices and out-of-scope compensation matters amongst members.

2.2. Powers and Duties of the Board BCPSEA Representative

"The liaison and communications conduit between Boards of Education and BCPSEA on human resources matters, including distribution of BCPSEA communications to Board members while ensuring their Board's voice is heard by BCPSEA."

- 2.2.1. Attend the BCPSEA meetings as required.
- 2.2.2. Represent the Board's positions and interests at BCPSEA meetings.
- 2.2.3. Communicate to the Board the work of BCPSEA.
- 2.2.4. Bring recommendations to the Board as and when necessary.
- 2.2.5. Build positive relationships.

Policy 9

2.3. Membership

2.3.1. One (1) Trustee; one (1) alternate. (Trustees holding this position will need to ensure that they are not in a conflict of interest position with respect to collective bargaining)

2.4. Meetings

2.4.1. As called by BCPSEA.

Other Community Involvement

As active community members Trustees are frequently requested to sit on various community committees or be involved in community organizations such as the local Chamber of Commerce. The trustee shall make clear that their presence is as a community member and not as a School District No. 57 trustee and therefore the views expressed are those of the individual and not those of the Board or School District.

From time to time the Board may wish to send a representative to other external organizations or committees established by such an external organization. Should the Board choose to do so the Board shall appoint a trustee by Board motion. Should the Board not have a relevant position the representative shall seek one from the Board and refrain from expressing a personal opinion. In addition, such a representative is required to provide the Board with timely reports.

School Liaison Trustee Role

The Chair shall make School Liaison assignments.

The role of liaison trustee is to provide visible support for school activities including but not limited to athletic competitions, fine arts performances and displays, school celebrations, and recognition events. The role allows Trustees to become knowledgeable of public school activities and events and understand the culture of schools in the School District. Trustee attendance at liaison schools shall be managed individually, taking into consideration the availability of the individual trustee to attend such events throughout the school year.

School liaison responsibilities shall not:

- Inhibit or circumvent administrative authority or responsibility
- Include any decision-making authority
- Involve the assignment of Trustees in conflict, or perceived conflict, of interest

Policy 9

Parent Advisory Council

Parent Advisory Councils as per section 8 of the *School Act* may advise the Board and the principal and staff of a school respecting any matter relating to the school. The role of school liaison trustee does not include attendance at Parent Advisory Council meetings. If these Councils wish to advise the Board corporate, that communication be sent to the Board in writing.

Members of Parent Advisory Councils may participate in the District Parent Advisory Council.

District Parent Advisory Council

District Parent Advisory Councils as per section 8.5 (1) of the *School Act* may advise the Board on any matter relating to education in the school district . A trustee of the school district may attend any meeting of the District Parents Advisory Council. The Board recognizes that the DPAC serves in an advocacy role for parents of students in the district. If this Council wish to advise the Board corporate, that communication be sent to the Board in writing.

District Student Advisory Council

A District Student Advisory Council shall be established to advise the Board of Education of student opinions on educational and operational policies and procedures. The District Student Advisory Council will serve in an advocacy role for the district's student population and will identify and bring to the attention of the Board of Education issues and concerns affecting students.

Legal Reference: *School Act* Sections 8.4, 8.5, 22, 65, 74, 85
Ministry of Education website

Related Policies:
Policy 1 – Foundational Statements
Policy 7 – Board Operations
Policy 8 – Board Committees
Policy 16 – Indemnification Bylaw

Approved: 2022.06.22

Policy 9 Appendix

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

TRUSTEE COMMITTEE AND LIAISON APPOINTMENTS – DECEMBER XXXX

Elected Positions

BCSTA Provincial Councillor	Trustee Alternate Trustee
BCPSEA Representative	Trustee Alternate Trustee

District Committee Representatives

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee	Vice Chair Alternate Trustee
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Liaison Appointments

District Parent Advisory Council	Alternating Schedule
District Student Advisory Council	Alternating Schedule

School Liaisons

FAMILY OF SCHOOLS	Liaison Trustee
College Heights Secondary School	Trustee
Duchess Park Secondary School John McInnis Centre	Trustee
Shaḡ Ti Kelly Road Secondary School	Trustee
Prince George Secondary School	Trustee
D. P. Todd Secondary School	Trustee
Mackenzie Secondary School	Trustee
McBride Secondary School Valemount Secondary School	Trustee