

Policy 2

ROLE OF THE BOARD

As the elected body, the Board of Trustees shall provide overall direction and leadership to The Foothills School Division. The Board will provide fiduciary oversight, community engagement and insight as well as visionary foresight reflective of the values of the community it serves.

The Board is accountable to the electorate for assuring that Division programs and services meet the requirements of the **Education Act** and provincial regulations. While this policy describes the Board's governance role in setting direction, engaging stakeholders, and ensuring accountability, the statutory responsibilities reserved to the Board are outlined in Policy 9 – *Board Delegation of Authority*. Policy 2 should therefore be read in conjunction with Policy 9 to fully understand the scope of the Board's responsibilities.

The work of the Board will be characterized by a manner reflective of mutually respectful interactions with all stakeholders that places the moral imperative of acting consistently in the best interest of students at the forefront of all decisions - *Engagement, Support and Success for each Learner*.

Specific Areas of Responsibility

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the recruitment, selection, and evaluation of the Superintendent to whom the day-to-day management of the school division is entrusted. The Superintendent is accountable to the Board for the conduct and operation of the Division.

In addition to the responsibilities outlined in the [Education Act](#) and other associated provincial regulations and requirements, the Board of Trustees will provide ongoing governance with a focus on a stewardship of the shared moral imperative in the following areas:

Engagement

- Establish processes and provide opportunity for ongoing and focused community input that engages widely and in a variety of ways.
- Make informed decisions that consider community values and represent the interests of the entire Division.
- Collaborate with schools and community to foster positive professional relationships.
- Build confidence and trust in the provision of quality educational services provided through The Foothills School Division.

- Model a culture of collective responsibility, continuous improvement, mutual respect and organizational integrity.

Support

- Provide overall direction for the Division by establishing the mission, vision and purpose in *Policy 1 – Foundational Statements*.
- Identify Board priorities at the outset of the fixed 5-Year Education planning process.
- Monitor the achievement and effectiveness of Board goals, educational outcomes and Division priorities and provide direction aimed at continuous improvement.
- Provide for recognition of students, staff and community.
- Encourage and support the formation of a Council of School Councils (COSC).

Success

- Advocate for public education and the Division within the Foothills community and beyond.
- Maintain timely, transparent and effective communications to the community we serve.
- Provide the community with consistent access to Board meetings.
- Develop, approve and monitor the implementation of policies that guide the Division and the Board.

Legal Reference: [Relevant Legislation & Guidelines](#)

Appendix A – Board Annual Work Plan

Appendix B - Board of Trustees Governance Quality Standards

Appendix C – Board of Trustees Annual Self-Assessment: Trustee Reflective Practice Template

Appendix D – Communication Protocols for Engagement, Support and Success

Appendix E – Protocols for Trustee Visits to Schools