

## 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.

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 will have Board representation as identified normally at the annual Inaugural Meeting or alternatively at a subsequent meeting of the Board.

#### External Committees

#### 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.

##### 1.2 Powers and Duties of the Board 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 Representative
    - 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.
  - 2.3 Membership
    - 2.3.1 One (1) trustee; one (1) alternate.
  - 2.4 Meetings
    - 2.4.1 As called by BCPSEA.
- 3. BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch
  - 3.1 Purpose of the BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch
    - 3.1.1 Receive reports from the BCSTA Board of Directors.
    - 3.1.2 Discuss and/or develop policy issues for submission at the Annual General Meeting.
    - 3.1.3 Act as a forum for discussion of Thompson Okanagan Branch issues.
  - 3.2 Powers and Duties of the Board Representative
    - 3.2.1 Attend BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch meetings.
    - 3.2.2 Represent the Board's positions and interests at BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch meetings.
    - 3.2.3 Communicate to the Board the work of the BCSTA Thompson Okanagan Branch.

3.2.4 Bring recommendations to the Board as and when necessary.

3.2.5 Build positive working relationships with other Boards.

### 3.3 Membership

3.3.1 Any trustees may attend; however one (1) trustee; one (1) alternate are assigned as representatives.

### 3.4 Meetings

3.4.1 As called by Thompson Okanagan Branch executive.

## 4. Community Organizations

From time to time the Board may wish to send a representative to other external organizations or committees established by such an external organization.

### 4.1 Purpose

The purpose of Board representation on such committees external to the District is to:

4.1.1 Represent and advance the Board's positions and interests.

4.1.2 Build positive relationships with the external organization.

4.1.3 Strengthen two-way communication between the Board and the external organization.

### 4.2 Powers and Duties

4.2.1 Share relevant Board positions.

4.2.2 Should the Board not have an established position, the representative shall seek one from the Board and refrain from expressing a personal opinion.

4.2.3 Provide the Board with timely reports and where appropriate, recommendations.

### 4.3 Membership

4.3.1 As determined by the external organization.

4.3.2 The Chair will recommend and the Board shall appoint representation by Board motion.

### 4.4 Meetings

4.4.1 As determined by the external organization.

## 5. School Liaison Trustee Role

The Chair, upon consultation with trustees shall recommend school liaison assignments. The Board retains the authority to make appointments.

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. Trustee attendance at liaison schools shall be managed by the individual trustee, 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 nor shall such responsibilities include any decision-making authority.

6. Parent Advisory Council

The role of school liaison trustee at school PAC is to convey information to the PAC on Board decisions and to convey information on the activities of the PAC to the Board. If these councils wish to advise the Board corporate, that advice is to be sent to the Board through correspondence or delegation at a regular Board meeting.

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