



*Policy Section:* **Trusteeship and the Board**

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*Policy Name:* Governance

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## **Policy Statement**

The Board will govern lawfully, observing all acts and regulations as well as the principles of the Policy Governance model, with an emphasis on:

1. outward vision rather than an internal preoccupation,
2. encouragement of diversity in viewpoints,
3. strategic leadership more than administrative detail,
4. clear distinction of Board and Chief Executive roles,
5. collective rather than individual decisions,
6. future rather than past or present and
7. proactivity rather than reactivity.

## **Rationale**

In order to ensure that the Keewatin-Patricia District School Board stays focused on student achievement, role clarification is necessary. All components of the system have unique contributions to make to improve student success. Trustees have the responsibility to act within the role that best serves the needs of the system.

## **Guidelines**

1. The Board will cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The Board, not the staff, will be responsible for excellence in governing. The Board will normally be the initiator of policy. The Board will use the expertise of individual members to enhance the ability of the Board as a body rather than to substitute individual judgments for the Board's values.
2. The Board will direct, control, and inspire the organization through the selective and careful establishment of broad written policies reflecting the Board's values and Principles of Operations. The Board's major policy focus will be on the long-term goals as identified in the organization's Strategic Plan, not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those goals. A primary tool for the Board and the organization will be the Strategic Plan and its component parts.

Cross References:	
Operating Procedures: Governing Style <b>Policy:</b> 708, Respectful Working and Learning Environment; Conflict Prevention and Resolution	Date Adopted: October 10, 2006 Dates Reviewed: Feb 12/08; Dec 11/12; Dec 8/15  Review by: 2020



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3. The Board will enforce upon itself and its members whatever discipline is needed to govern with excellence. Discipline will apply to matters such as attendance, preparation, policy-making principles, respect of roles, and ensuring continuance of governance capability. The Board can change its governance process policies at any time but it will observe those currently in force.
4. Continual Board development will include orientation of new members in the Board's adopted governance process and periodic Board discussion of process improvement.
5. The Board will allow no officer, individual or committee of the Board to hinder or be an excuse for not fulfilling group obligations.

\* *Based on 'Boards that Make A Difference', by John Carver  
See Operating Procedures, Governing Style – Process for handling issues from the public*