

2230 BOARD COMMITTEES

The Grand Island Public Schools Board of Education shall authorize the president of the board to appoint such select committees as are deemed necessary. The functions of committees shall be fact-finding, deliberative, and advisory, and reports shall be made to the Board of Education for discussion and action. The President of the Board shall be an ex officio member of all committees. In so far as possible, announcement of committee meetings will be made at meetings of the Board, and the time and place of the meetings incorporated into the minutes for purposes of public announcement.

The bulk of the Grand Island Public Schools Board's work is addressed through its five standing committees: Personnel, Policy Review, Facilities and Finance, American Civics (Leading for Learning), and Board Governance. The Board President appoints Board members to Standing and Special Committees. Each Board member will serve on a minimum of two committees with no more than four Board members on each committee. Standing committees are established to allow issues to be reviewed in great length, so the regular monthly meetings run efficiently and timely. The Standing Committees are:

Committee on Facilities and Finance

It will be the primary duty of the Committee on Finance to review in detail the monthly claims submitted to the Board of Education and make appropriate motions for adoption or deletion at the meeting of the Board of Education.

Committee on Personnel

It will be the primary function of the Committee on Personnel to review those regular personnel action items presented at each monthly meeting and make appropriate motions for their approval or modification at the regular meeting of the entire Board.

Committee on American Civics (Leading for Learning)

It will be the purpose of this committee to meet the statutory responsibilities of Nebraska School Law (79-724). This committee will review, as appropriate, all resource adoptions, recommendations for the establishment of curriculum, and all the matters as appropriate that affect leading and learning in the school district.

Committee on Policy Review

It will be the primary purpose of this committee to initiate, revise, review, and edit all policies and present policies to the Board of Education for approval.

Committee on Board Governance

It will be the primary purpose of this committee to steer the continual improvement of the Grand Island Public Schools Board of Education. Responsibilities include, but shall not be limited to:

- Maintaining a strategic focus for the Board of Education;
- Monitor and guide "systems thinking"; and
- Develop and review Board of Education "infrastructure" such as new BOE member on-boarding; facilitation of BOE member appointment process; conduct annual BOE self-evaluation; monitoring of strategic plan progress; monitoring of BOE meeting and committee structure.

The Board can also accomplish its work through a variety of small groups including ad hoc committees, task forces, or advisory councils.

- **Ad hoc committees** are formed on an annual basis to study and find creative solutions to a particular challenge the District is facing, such as Legislative and Greater Nebraska School Association, Calendar, Grand Island Public Schools Foundation, Extra Standard, Labor Relations, Public Relations and Partnership Development, and Safety.
- A **task force** can be formed if there is an objective that can be achieved in a relatively short period of time. Task forces are designed to bring people together to solve a problem and are short in duration with a specific focus, such as naming a facility, bond issue, or early childhood study.

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- **Advisory councils or coalitions** assist boards in carrying out their work by providing expertise and advice in selected areas. Advisory councils do not have any governance responsibilities and are a good way to include former board members, potential board members, subject matter experts, and others in the work of the board without placing them on the board. The GIPS Parent Advisory Council, Key Communicators, and Teacher Leaders Coalition are examples of advisory councils in GIPS.

Ad hoc committees, task forces, and advisory councils are a good way to involve non-board members in the board's work. This also gives the volunteer and staff leadership the opportunity to evaluate group members for their leadership potential and interest them in further volunteer opportunities or becoming a board member. Authorization to act on behalf of the board may only be delegated to standing committees comprised solely of board members.

Generally, small groups should be structured so that there are sufficient members to do its work. Limiting board member service to no more than four members on each small group gives board members the opportunity to focus on an area and develop expertise that can further the work of the organization and allows for membership from the greater community. The small group membership should represent the diversity of the community to include students and parents, race, ethnicity, income level, gender, and age.

A member of the GIPS superintendent's cabinet facilitates the small group structure. The cabinet member is responsible for translating the board's goals for the group into meeting agendas and work plans. The cabinet member acts as facilitator working with staff as appropriate to prepare background materials for meetings, scheduling meetings, preparing minutes and reports, and otherwise keeping the group functioning. Cabinet members report on the work of their group to the full board.

Groups should perform regular self-assessments to determine if they are working effectively, achieving their established goals, and providing value to the organization. This is completed at the end of each meeting or on an annual or more frequent basis. When making a recommendation to the board, the GIPS Needs Analysis Protocol is shared with the Board.

All Board committee agendas and minutes will be posted to the Board committee's folder in the districts designated content repository so all Board members can review. Non-committee Board members wishing to attend specific committee meetings will make their request through the Board President. Standing Committees will report at the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education making information discussed in committees public. Ad Hoc Committees, task forces, and advisory councils may report at Board meetings after the group has met. The committees do not have power to take formal action on issues without a full vote of the Board of Education. Each committee will:

- Receive input from administration staff assigned to the particular committee;
- Seek opportunities to receive input prior to decision-making;
- Analyze and organize collected data;
- Develop multiple options, which include potential impact on finance, facilities, and staff;
- Present the solutions to the Board of Education with a recommendation; and
- Provide a plan to implement the decision, which contains an on-going monitoring system.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-724
 Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-520
 LB 399 (2019)

GIPS Policy Reference: 2111 BOARD OPERATING PRINCIPLES

Policy Adopted 3/1/76
Policy Revised 7/8/91

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Policy Revised 9/11/03

Policy Revised 6-12-08

Policy Revised 10.14.2010

Policy Revised 05.08.2014

Policy Revised: 12.13.2018

Policy Revised: 05.09.2019

Policy Revised: 09.09.2021