

# District Policy

## **0141- BOARD MEMBER NUMBER AND TERM**

Section: Bylaws  
Date Created: May 2013  
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**Number of Trustees:** At any given time (exclusive of ex officio Trustee) the number of voting Trustees shall not be fewer than three or more than twenty. Each Trustee shall be elected or appointed by the Board and shall serve a term of two or three years or until his or her successor is elected and qualified.

**Terms of Trustees:** The terms of each Trustee shall be two or three years, at the discretion of the Board, determined before the time of election or appointment. The terms shall be staggered to ensure continuity and consistency in the Board make-up.

**Composition of the Board:** It is the intent of the Board that a majority of the voting membership should be comprised of parent/guardian members.

**Consecutive Terms:** There is no limit to the numbers of terms an officer may serve in any one position.

### **Appointment of Trustees and Their Successors:**

**Founding Members as Board members:** The Board shall include two Founding Members. Founding Members are individuals whom the Board feels exemplify the mission and spirit of the founders of the school. Parents/guardians of enrolled students, parents/guardians of alumni of the school, and parents/guardians of students graduating from the school in the academic year of the parent or guardian's nomination and former employees shall be among those eligible for nomination as Founding Members. At the end of a founding member's term each founding member shall recommend their successors to the Board for its approval. The Board shall randomly assign terms of two and three years so that a founding member is appointed every second and third year.

**Chief School Administrator as Board member:** The Trustees shall appoint the Chief School Administrator as an ex officio **non-voting** member of the Board who shall attend the Board meetings and participate therein, but who shall not have a vote. The Chief School Administrator shall serve on the Board as long as, and only as long as, he or she holds the position of Chief School Administrator, and shall be succeeded by any person who is thereafter hired to said position, by appointment by the Board.

Teachers as Board members: The Trustee shall appoint two members of the full-time teaching staff of the school as Teacher Representatives **who shall serve as ex officio non-voting members of the Board**. The teachers appointed to the Board shall be elected by the full-time faculty and approved by the Board. ~~The election shall be conducted in the presence of the Chief School Administrator who shall report the results to the Board.~~—The teachers may elect an alternate to serve as Trustee (subject to Board approval) in the event that one of the elected teachers ceases to serve as Trustee before the end of his or her appointed term. At its sole discretion, the Board may assign terms of one or two years to each teacher-Trustee. At each succeeding annual meeting, the Board shall appoint a successor who has been elected by the full-time faculty to succeed the teacher whose term expires. To the extent possible, the terms of teachers appointed to the Board shall be staggered in order to facilitate that one teacher is elected each year. A teacher may hold office only so long as he or she is a full-time member of the school faculty. **Teacher Representative shall freely be given the ability to participate as Trustees in Board deliberations which are public in nature. Pursuant to law, Teacher Representatives shall not participate in confidential non-public deliberations, such as closed executive sessions or personnel committees. Teacher Representatives' participation shall not include the bringing of grievances, which shall be subject to the Grievance Policy or any applicable collective bargaining agreements.**

Parent(s)/guardian(s) as Board members: The Board shall appoint at least three parents/legal guardians (of pupils enrolled in the school at the time of appointment) who have been elected by the parent/guardian(s) (of pupils enrolled in the school at the time of the election) to serve as voting Trustees. ("Parent Trustees") The parents may elect an alternate to serve as Trustee in the event that one of the elected Parent Trustee ceases to serve as Trustee before the end of his or her term. At its discretion, the Board shall assign terms of two or three years to each elected Parent Trustee. At each successive annual Board meeting, the Board shall appoint a successor who has been elected by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to succeed the Parent Trustee whose term expires. To the extent possible, the terms of elected Parent Trustees shall be staggered in order to facilitate that one Parent Trustee is elected every year. The election of Parent Trustees shall be conducted in accordance with guidelines established by the Chief School Administrator and approved by the Board at least one month before the Parent Trustee election. The Board Secretary shall give each parent at least two weeks advanced written notice of the date, time and place of each Parent-Trustee election. Each family shall have one vote. A Parent Trustee may hold office only so long as he or she has a child properly enrolled at the school. In the event that a Parent Trustee's last child is transferred from, dismissed from, or otherwise ceases to attend the school; the parent Trustee shall resign from the Parent Trustee Board position immediately. The former parent Trustee is eligible to continue to serve on the Board in either a founder member or community member position.

Community as Board members: The Board shall nominate, elect and appoint at least two Trustees who are members/residents of the "surrounding school community" (as defined in the sole discretion the Board) to serve as voting Trustees. ("Community Trustee") At its discretion, the Board shall assign terms of two or three years to each Community Trustee. At each successive annual Board meeting, the Board shall nominate, elect and appoint a successor to succeed the Community Trustee member whose term expires. To the extent possible, the terms of Community Trustees shall be staggered in order to facilitate that one Community Trustee is elected every year. Any candidate for Board membership who is a parent of a student enrolled at the school

must be elected as a Parent Trustee in order to serve on the Board, and may not be appointed as a Community Trustee.

Honorary Board members: The Board may create such classes of membership such as contributing members or honorary members, as the Trustees see fit, but such person shall not have the rights of members under the New Jersey Nonprofit Corporation Act.

Other Legal Requirements: Notwithstanding the above, the composition of the Board shall comply with all relevant laws and the requirements of the Charter School Program Act. Any qualifications for Trustees, as set by the Board of Trustees from time to time, must be made prior to the election to the Board.

N.J.S.A. 18A:12-6; 18A:12-9; 18A:12-11; 18A:12-15

Adopted: 14 May 2013