Richmond School District Policy Statement Board Committees

The Board of Education believes committees can be useful in the decision-making process. By using a Board committee structure, the Board is able to conduct its business in an efficient and effective manner and study issues facing the District more in depth. The committee structure is designed to assist the Board in the conducting of Board business; it is not intended to take away a Board member's opportunity to ask questions or to be involved in the decision-making process.

The Board shall have the following standing committees, which shall be subunits of the Board:

- 1. Budget and Finance
- 2. Curriculum & Instruction
- 3. Facilities
- 4. Personnel/Negotiations
- 5. Policy

Standing committees shall perform specific functions and duties as determined by the Board. They shall be fact-finding, deliberative and advisory in nature. Committees shall have no power to take any action whatsoever on behalf of the Board or to otherwise commit the Board or District to any course of action or expenditure of funds. In the event of any uncertainty surrounding a committee's scope of responsibility, and to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort, the Board retains discretion to make final determinations as to the most appropriate committee, if any, to address specific issues.

Standing committees shall be appointed annually by the Board President, after receiving preferences from individual Board members. The appointments shall occur within 30 days of the annual election of Board officers. Each committee shall consist of two board members and the District Administrator/ Designee. The quorum of each standing committee shall be defined as a majority of the full membership of the committee.

The first-named person on the Board President's list of appointees for each committee shall act as committee chair, and the second-named person shall act as the alternate chair in the event the chairperson is unable to attend a scheduled meeting or otherwise perform the duties of the chair. The Board President shall not appoint the same Board member as the chair of multiple standing committees, except by necessity or except with the approval of the Board.

The appointed members of the various committees and the committee chairs shall serve until the next annual appointments are made, assuming no vacancies occur and assuming no subsequent action by the Board to modify committee structures or committee membership. The District Administrator shall appoint an administrator to serve as a resource and advisor to each standing committee.

It shall be the responsibility of the committee chair to coordinate the scheduling of meetings with the District Administrator/Designee. Minutes of all committee meetings are recorded and prepared by the committee chair. The committee chair shall be provided time on regular Board meeting agendas to present reports and/or make recommendations to the Board as the committee requests and as requested by the Board.

In the event of a vacancy on the Board, and in the absence of any Board action to the contrary, the person appointed to fill the Board vacancy (if any) shall also assume the committee appointments formerly held by the Board member whose absence created the vacancy. In the event that multiple vacancies on the Board leave any standing committee unable to achieve a quorum, the Board President may present for Board approval a proposal to revise committee and committee chair appointments for the remainder of the annual period.

Any Board member may attend and participate in the discussion that occurs at any open session committee meeting and not attend and participate in the discussion that occurs at any closed session meeting. All Board members shall receive a copy of committee meeting minutes so as to stay fully informed of committee activities.

Committee meeting minutes shall not be submitted for publication as a legal notice, but shall be made available to the public as appropriate through the District's website and pursuant to requests submitted under the Wisconsin Public Records Law.

Public notice shall be given for all Board committee meetings in accordance with state law and Board policy. When appropriate, based on the anticipated attendance of Board members who are not members of the committee, such notice shall include a statement that a quorum of the Board may be present, but the Board will take no action as a governmental body at the committee meeting.

Legal References:	Wisconsin Statutes	19.82 Open Meeting Law
		<u>19.83</u> Meeting of governmental bodies
		<u>19.84</u> Public notices
		19.85 Exemptions

Approved: 12/10/01

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