



**Douglas
County**
School District

Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Committee Launch
August 17, 2021

How We Govern...

The Board's only employee: the Superintendent

The Board defines the WHAT and the Superintendent and Employees determine the HOW

Set Policy, End Statements, and Executive Limitations

Bridge to the community through committees:

Long Range Planning Committee

Fiscal Oversight Committee

District Accountability Committee

Mill Levy and Bond Oversight Committee

Student Advisory Group



Board End Statements Goals

1. Academic Excellence
2. Outstanding Educators and Staff
3. Safe, Positive Climate and Culture
4. Collaborative Parent, Family, and Community Relations
5. Financial Well-Being



The mission of the Douglas County School District is to provide an educational foundation that allows each student to reach their individual potential.

PURPOSE OF BOARD COMMITTEES

To support the work of the Board



WATCHDOGS VS. MEMBERS

WATCHDOG

- Whistleblowers
- Collect info about wrong doings
- Warns members of the community
- Sounds the alarm
- Offensive posture
- Scrutinizes

COMMITTEE MEMBER

- Researches
- Advises
- Laser focus on assigned priority and charge
- Advocates
- Primary Concern: Success of the organization
- Ambassadors

BOARD COMMITTEE PRINCIPLES

1. Charged and put into existence by the Board
2. Helps the Board do its job
3. Expectations, priorities and authority specifically stated and granted by the Board
4. Does not exercise authority over the superintendent or staff
5. Does not monitor the performance of the same subject as the committee's focus
6. Unless legally required, committees are typically ad hoc
7. Have clear and specific goals, objectives, and timelines
8. Meetings are subject to open meetings law and conducted according to bylaws

Paraphrased from BOE Policy Governance Book GP 1.6: Board Committee Principles

LIAISONS

STAFF LIAISON

- Clarify operational practices as needed
- Assist with finding answers to collective committee questions
- Consult as needed; but not an active committee member
- Consult with Board liaisons
- Present information that supports committee's charge

BOARD LIAISON

- Convey Board priorities and committee direction
- Consult with committee chairs for agenda setting and troubleshooting
- Interpret relevant governance, Board policies, and Board action
- Communication pipeline between Board and committee
- Consult as needed; but not an active committee member

Universal Code of Ethics

1. Serve for the benefit of children
2. Openly express opinions at the meeting
3. Abide by and support majority approved decisions of the committee
4. Not use committee membership to influence authority over others
5. Consistent attendance at meetings
6. Cannot act or speak on behalf of the committee unless authorized
7. Respect the confidentiality appropriate to issues of a sensitive nature.
8. Recuse from deliberation and decision making if there is a conflict of interest
9. Respect opinions of others and make no disparaging remarks about others in or out of committee meetings
10. “Avoid the in-house from going to the outhouse” (conflict resolution communication channels: committee chair(s), liaison, BOE Pres/VPres,)

Break Session Tasks

1. **Clarify the committee's charge according to Board direction**
2. **Review committee meeting format and procedures**
3. **Review status of Code of Ethics for Members**
4. **Confirm meeting schedule and format for the year**



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BOE COMMITTEE LAUNCH

August 17, 2021



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Lab Station F
Biotech
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