

GP 1.9 Investment in Governance

The Board will invest appropriately and wisely in its governance capacity to enable the Board to govern lawfully, ethically, and prudently, in accordance with GP 1.1 The Board's Governing Style, with an emphasis on leadership that produces the best possible Ends results for students.

Accordingly:

1.9.1 Board development and continuous improvement in its governance capacity will include sufficient skills, methods, and supports to assure governing with excellence.

1.9.1.1 There will be ongoing professional development to prudently orient new members and candidates, as well as to maintain and increase existing members' skills and understandings.

1.9.1.2 Outside monitoring assistance will be arranged so the Board can exercise confident control over organizational performance. This includes, but is not limited to, fiscal audits.

1.9.1.3 Outreach mechanisms will be used as needed to assure the Board's ability to listen to owner viewpoints and values.

1.9.1.4 Board administrative and technological needs, including laptop devices, will be provided to ensure the Board is able to successfully achieve its work.

1.9.2 Governance costs will be prudently managed and incurred via the Board's discretionary budget to ensure excellence in governance performance.

1.9.2.1 Upon availability of funds and majority approval by the Board, the Board governance budget may include: board operations, professional development, community engagement, outside monitoring assistance, and one-time expenses.

i. Board Operations: Activities directly related to the functioning of the school board such as meetings, membership in statewide and national organizations, outside professional expertise, and board administrative expenses including office supplies and meals.

ii. Professional Development: Training and educational opportunities for board members to enhance their governance capabilities such as attendance at conferences, retreats, and workshops.

iii. Community Engagement: Activities designed to engage stakeholders, including parents, students, staff, and community members, in the governance process. These activities include surveys, focus groups, opinion analyses, and meeting costs and other ownership linkage and partnership opportunities.

iv. Outside Monitoring Assistance: Services, such as a fiscal audit and other third-party monitoring for organizational performance, that assist the Board with assurance of the integrity of the financials.

v. One-time expenses: Activities that do not typically occur on an annual basis such as general election fees, polling, and boundaries re-evaluation.

1.9.2.2 The Board will publicly review, discuss, and adjust, as necessary, its expenditures on a quarterly basis, and project its budget for the next fiscal year.

1.9.3 Budget Expenditure Approval

1.9.3.1 The Board Treasurer is required to approve proposed Board expenditures over \$2,000 prior to using the funds to ensure budget solvency.

1.9.3.2 If the Board Treasurer is unavailable to review the proposed expenditure, the Board Assistant Secretary has the authority to review and approve the expenditure. The Board Assistant Secretary is required to notify the Board Treasurer about the approved expenditure in a timely manner.