



# 2022-2023 BOE Committee Priorities Discussion

August 9, 2022

*Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow*

# Board of Education Governance Structure

- The Board of Education defines the WHAT and WHY.
- The Superintendent and staff determine the HOW.
- The Board of Education bridges to the community through board committees.
  - District Accountability Committee
  - Fiscal Oversight Committee
  - Long Range Planning Committee
  - Mill Levy and Bond Oversight Committee
  - Mill Bond Exploratory Committee (*future*)
  - Student Advisory Group

## GP 1.6 Board Committee Principles (Policy Governance Book)

**1.6.1** A committee is a Board committee only if its existence and charge come from the Board.

**1.6.2** Board committees are to help the Board do its job, not to help or advise the staff.

Committees ordinarily will assist the Board by preparing policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation.

**1.6.3** Board committees may not speak or act for the Board except when formally given such authority for specific and time-limited purposes. Expectations and authority will be carefully stated in order not to conflict with authority delegated to the Superintendent.

**1.6.3.1** When fulfilling his or her charge from the Board, a Board liaison may reasonably interpret relevant Governance Process policies and relevant, specific Board decisions as evidenced by officially passed motions, making decisions or taking actions necessary to fulfill that charge, as long as those decisions or actions are reasonable interpretations of Governance Process policies and specific Board decisions.

## GP 1.6 Board Committee Principles (continued)

**1.6.4** Board committees cannot exercise authority over staff. Because the Superintendent works for the full Board, he or she will not be required to obtain approval of a Board committee before an executive action.

**1.6.5** Board committees are to avoid over-identification with organizational parts rather than the whole. Therefore, a Board committee that has helped the Board create policy on some topic will not usually be used to monitor organizational performance on that same subject.

**1.6.6** Unless legally required, committees will be used sparingly and ordinarily in an ad hoc capacity.

**1.6.7** This policy applies to any group, that is formed by Board action, whether or not it is called a committee and regardless of whether the group includes Board members even if a committee consists of one Board member, who may be referred to as a “liaison.” It does not apply to committees formed under the authority of the Superintendent.

**1.6.8** Board committees will have clear and specific goals, objectives, and timelines.



# District Accountability Committee

The District Accountability Committee (DAC) helps to collect feedback from School Accountability Committees and then advises the Board of Education regarding spending priorities.

In Colorado, it is a statutory requirement for every school district to have a District Accountability Committee (DAC). The committee is made up of parents, teachers, DCSD staff, and community members and serves in an advisory capacity to the Douglas County School District Board of Education.

The District Accountability Committee (DAC) meets monthly throughout the year and makes recommendations to the Board regarding spending District money, charter school applications, improvement plans and parent engagement plans. The committee's members also make recommendations for areas and issues for study, as well as teacher and principal assessment tools.

# Fiscal Oversight Committee



**The role of the Fiscal Oversight Committee (FOC) is to assist the Board of Education in fulfilling its fiscal oversight responsibilities.** The FOC does not assume the ultimate fiscal responsibilities of the Board of Education. The Board and the Superintendent retain the ultimate responsibility for the District's financial condition and for decision-making in all matters of policy and operation.

The scope of the FOC's responsibilities includes information gathering, fact-finding, and making recommendations in the areas of:

- Budget (Operating and Capital);
- Accounting, Audit, and Financial Reporting (Internal and External);
- Banking (Commercial and Investment); and
- Other fiscal matters as assigned by the Board. For example, the activities of the FOC may also include an assessment of federal and state legislation, policies, and regulations in respect of the fiscal operations of the District.

# Long Range Planning Committee

The charge of the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) is to study school district sites, boundaries and capacity needs.



# Mill Bond Oversight Committee

The purpose of the Mill Bond Oversight Ad-Hoc Committee (MBOC) is to become familiar with the 2018 Mill Levy Override and bond program and project list.

The responsibilities of the MBOC include:

- Assisting the BOE in fulfilling its responsibility to provide transparency and assurance that mill levy and general obligation bond funds, approved by Douglas County voters in November 2018, are spent as intended and represented to the voters
- Reporting periodically, at least annually, to the BOE regarding the status of MLO/Bond expenditures
- Assisting in maintaining public trust and confidence in the District through active involvement in MLO/Bond project communications
- Meeting regularly to review progress to date
- Reviewing MLO/Bond expenditures for alignment with ballot language approved by voters
- Participating in scheduled site visits during construction, as invited by the DCSD Chief Operations Officer
- Reviewing the Chief Financial Officer's recommendations for maintaining congruence between financial statements and identified spending of MLO/Bond funding
- Reviewing the ongoing master schedule of projects
- Providing regular updates to the DCSD Communications Team that can be shared with the community



# Student Advisory Group

The Student Advisory Group (SAG) provides an opportunity for the Board and District personnel to have a focus group of high school students who express what they think is important regarding their education. .



## Next Steps

Draft a resolution based on priorities discussed to be placed on the August 23 Meeting Agenda (Info/Action or Consent)