

I. PURPOSE

The care, management and control of the schools and/or its programs and activities is vested by statutory and constitutional authority in the school board. The school board shall carry out the mission of the NWSISD with diligence, prudence, and dedication to the ideals of providing the finest public education to the students of its member districts. The purpose of this policy is to define the authority, duties and powers of the NWSISD school board in carrying out its mission.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. The school board is the governing body of NWSISD. As such, the school board has responsibility for the care, management, and control over the programs and activities in the school district.
- B. Generally, duly appointed members of the school board have binding authority only when acting as a school board legally in session, except where specific authority is provided to school board members or officers individually. Generally, the school board is not bound by an action or statement on the part of an individual school board member unless the action is specifically directed or authorized by the school board.

III. DEFINITION

"School Board" or "Board" means the governing body of the school district.

IV. ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP AND COMPENSATION

- A. The membership of the NWSISD school board shall consist of one school board member from each of the NWSISD's member districts. Additionally, an at-large member shall be a rotating district Superintendent on a per meeting basis. Each member school board shall fill the vacant, un-expired terms of its representatives on the Board as vacancies occur.
- B. Each board member shall have one vote. There shall be no voting by proxy. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the Board. The act of the majority of a quorum is the act of the Board.

V. POWERS AND DUTIES

- A. The school board has powers and duties specified by statute. The school board's authority includes implied powers in addition to specific powers granted by the legislature.
- B. The school board exercises administrative functions. It also has certain powers of a legislative character and other powers of a quasi-judicial character.
- C. The school board shall superintend and manage the programs and activities of the school district; adopt rules for their organization, government, and instruction; prescribe textbooks and courses of study; and make and authorize contracts.
- D. The school board shall have the general charge of the business of the school district.
- E. The school board, among other duties, shall perform the following in accordance with applicable law:
 - 1. Conduct the business of the school district and pay indebtedness and proper expenses;
 - 2. Make and authorize contracts;
 - 3. Employ and contract with necessary qualified staff and teachers and discharge the same for cause;
 - 4. Provide services to promote the health of the students participating in the district's programs and activities;
 - 5. Purchase, sell, and exchange school district property and equipment as deemed necessary by the school board for school purposes;

6. Provide for payment of claims against the school district, and prosecute and defend actions by or against the school district, in all proper cases;
 7. Employ and discharge necessary employees and contract for other services;
 8. Provide for transportation of pupils to and from programs and activities, as governed by statute or determined by Board action;
 9. Procure insurance against liability of the school district, its officers and employees.
- F. The school board, at its discretion, may perform the following in conjunction with its member districts:
1. Provide public evening school programs and activities, adult and continuing education programs, summer school programs and intersession classes of flexible school year programs;
 2. Enter into agreements with one or more other independent school districts to provide for agreed upon educational services;
 3. Lease rooms or buildings for district purposes;
 4. Provide co-curricular and extracurricular activities;
 5. Receive, for the benefit of the school district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose;
 6. Perform other acts as the school board shall deem to be reasonably necessary or required for the governance of the school district.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 123A.22 (Cooperative Centers)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.02 (general powers)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.09 (school board powers)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.14 (school district officers)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.23 (Liability Insurance)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.49 (Co-curricular and Extracurricular Activities; Insurance)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.51 (Schoolhouses and Sites; Access for Non-curricular Purposes)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.85 (definition)
Jensen v. Indep. Consol. Sch. Dist. No. 85, 160 Minn. 233, 199 N.W. 911 (1924)

Cross References: NWSISD Policy 101 (Legal Status of the School District)
NWSISD Policy 202 (School Board Officers)
NWSISD Policy 205 (Open Meetings and Closed Meetings)
MSBA Service Manual, Chapter 3, School Board and its Powers

Adopted: June 19, 2002
Revised: February 15, 2006
February 16, 2011
November 15, 2017