



BOARD POLICY No. GOV-04	
Adopted	March 25, 2014
Last Revised	
Review Date	
Board Motion	14-R37

BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT: GOVERNANCE PERFORMANCE

1. RATIONALE

Rainbow District School Board has developed this governance policy to ensure accountability for the effective governance of the school system and to parallel Board policy related to the director of education's performance review.

This Board policy provides a collaborative and agreed-upon process for the Board's self-assessment of its governance performance. The process is intended to provide the Board with concrete feedback that can be used as a basis for continuous improvement.

2. POLICY

- 2.1 Rainbow District School Board believes that a properly conducted self-assessment of the Board's governance performance benefits the Board, ensures high standards for system leadership, enhances the relationship between the Director and the Board, and models the importance of accountability for the system.
- 2.2 The process for the Board's annual self-assessment provides a forum for constructive dialogue and exchange of information among the members of the Board. The process allows for the opportunity to review past accomplishments and progress. The process will normally be completed annually. The end result will provide clear direction for the Board's governance performance in the subsequent year.

3. BOARD EXPECTATIONS

- 3.1 The chair is responsible for leading the self-assessment process with the Board. It is recommended that all trustees provide feedback on the assessment.
- 3.2 The components of the Board self-assessment may include:
 - a) review of Board role performance as described in Board policy;
 - b) review of Board support for the multi-year plan;
 - c) monitoring of interpersonal working relationships;
 - d) monitoring of Board representation and communication;
 - e) monitoring relations between the Board and Director of Education;
 - f) review of Board governance policies; and
 - g) creating a positive path forward.

- 3.3 The Board self-evaluation is intended to answer such questions as the following:
- a) How well have we adhered to the Board vision, mission, and values; role of the corporate Board; and Governance By-Laws?
 - b) How well have we supported our multi-year plan?
 - c) How do we rate our interpersonal working relationships?
 - d) How well do we receive input and communicate?
 - e) Are political dynamics and constituency-based interests handled constructively and appropriately?
 - f) How would we rate our Board/Director relations?
 - g) What have we accomplished this past year? How do we know?
- 3.4 The Board will use a variety of evaluation tools and activities. The Board will determine in advance of the annual self-assessment:
- a) what information will be collected;
 - b) how it will be collected and by whom;
 - c) who will have access to the information;
 - d) how it will be analyzed and compiled;
 - e) when and how it will be discussed and whether a facilitator will be asked to assist in the discussions;
 - f) how reporting and feedback will occur;
 - g) how assessment results will be acted upon; and
 - h) how recommendations related to approved changes will be monitored.
- 3.5 Collection of information to inform the assessment may include:
- a) a review of Board motions;
 - b) interviews with Board members and the Director of Education;
 - c) surveys of trustees and other stakeholders;
 - d) focus groups with community members and other stakeholders; and/or
 - e) use of an outside facilitator.
- 3.6 The end result of the self-assessment will be the development and implementation of a specific plan that details accomplishments and, where appropriate, redirection, along with an agreement on objectives for the improvement of governance practices for the coming year.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Legal:

Education Act. S 169.1 Duties and Powers of Boards

Board:

Board Policy No. GOV-01 Vision, Mission, and Values
Board Policy No. GOV-02 Strategic Directions for Rainbow Schools
Board Policy No. GOV-03 Role of the Corporate Board
Board Governance By-Laws