

**ROLE OF THE BOARD**

The Board of Trustees has been elected by the community to provide leadership and citizen oversight of the district. The Board shall ensure that the district is responsive to the values, beliefs, and priorities of the community.

The Board shall work with the Superintendent to fulfill its major responsibilities, which include:

1. Setting the direction for the district through a process that involves the community, parents/guardians, students, and staff and is focused on student learning and achievement

*(cf. 0000 - Vision)*  
*(cf. 0100 - Philosophy)*  
*(cf. 0200 - Goals for the School District)*

2. Establishing an effective and efficient organizational structure for the district by:
  - a. Employing the Superintendent and setting policy for hiring of other personnel

*(cf. 2110 - Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties)*  
*(cf. 2120 - Superintendent Recruitment and Selection)*  
*(cf. 2121 - Superintendent's Contract)*  
*(cf. 4000 - Concepts and Roles)*  
*(cf. 4111 - Recruitment and Selection)*  
*(cf. 4211 - Recruitment and Selection)*  
*(cf. 4311 - Recruitment and Selection)*

- b. Overseeing the development and adoption of policies

*(cf. 9310 - Board Policies)*

- c. Establishing academic expectations and adopting the curriculum and instructional materials

*(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*  
*(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)*  
*(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*  
*(cf. 6146.5 - Elementary/Middle School Graduation Requirements)*  
*(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)*

- d. Establishing budget priorities and adopting the budget

*(cf. 3000 - Concepts and Roles)*  
*(cf. 3100 - Budget)*  
*(cf. 3312 - Contracts)*

**ROLE OF THE BOARD** (continued)

- e. Providing safe, adequate facilities that support the district's instructional program
  - (cf. 3517 - Facilities Inspection)*
  - (cf. 7110 - Facilities Master Plan)*
  - (cf. 7150 - Site Selection and Development)*
  - (cf. 7210 - Facilities Financing)*
  
- f. Setting parameters for negotiations with employee organizations and ratifying collective bargaining agreements
  - (cf. 4141/4241 - Collective Bargaining Agreement)*
  - (cf. 4143/4243 - Negotiations/Consultation)*
  
- 3. Providing support to the Superintendent and staff as they carry out the Board's direction by:
  - a. Establishing and adhering to standards of responsible governance
    - (cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)*
    - (cf. 9011 - Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information)*
    - (cf. 9200 - Limits of Board Member Authority)*
    - (cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)*
  
  - b. Making decisions and providing resources that support district priorities and goals
  
  - c. Upholding Board policies
  
  - d. Being knowledgeable about district programs and efforts in order to serve as effective spokespersons
    - (cf. 9240 - Board Development)*
    - (cf. 9400 - Board Self-Evaluation)*
  
- 4. Ensuring accountability to the public for the performance of the district's schools by:
  - a. Evaluating the Superintendent and setting policy for the evaluation of other personnel
    - (cf. 2140- Evaluation of the Superintendent)*
    - (cf. 4115 - Evaluation/Supervision)*
    - (cf. 4215 - Evaluation/Supervision)*
    - (cf. 4315 - Evaluation/Supervision)*
  
  - b. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of policies

**ROLE OF THE BOARD** (continued)

- c. Serving as a judicial (hearing) and appeals body in accordance with law, Board policies, and negotiated agreements
    - (cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)*
    - (cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)*
    - (cf. 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures)*
    - (cf. 1312.4 - Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures)*
    - (cf. 4030 - Nondiscrimination in Employment)*
    - (cf. 4117.3 - Personnel Reduction)*
    - (cf. 4118 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*
    - (cf. 4144/4244/4344 - Complaints)*
    - (cf. 4218 - Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action)*
    - (cf. 5116.1 - Intradistrict Open Enrollment)*
    - (cf. 5117 - Interdistrict Attendance)*
    - (cf. 5119 - Students Expelled from Other Districts)*
    - (cf. 5125.3 - Challenging Student Records)*
    - (cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)*
    - (cf. 6159.1 - Procedural Safeguards and Complaints for Special Education)*
    - (cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)*
  
  - d. Monitoring student achievement and program effectiveness and requiring program changes as necessary
    - (cf. 0500 - Accountability)*
    - (cf. 0520.2 - Title I Program Improvement Schools)*
    - (cf. 0520.3 - Title I Program Improvement Districts)*
    - (cf. 6162.5 - Student Assessment)*
    - (cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)*
    - (cf. 6162.52 - High School Exit Examination)*
    - (cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)*
  
  - e. Monitoring and adjusting district finances
    - (cf. 3460 - Financial Reports and Accountability)*
  
  - f. Monitoring the collective bargaining process
5. Providing community leadership and advocacy on behalf of students, the district's educational program, and public education in order to build support within the local community and at the state and national levels
- (cf. 0510 - School Accountability Report Card)*
  - (cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*
  - (cf. 1100 - Communication with the Public)*
  - (cf. 1112 - Media Relations)*
  - (cf. 1160 - Political Processes)*
  - (cf. 1400 - Relations between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*
  - (cf. 1700 - Relations between Private Industry and the Schools)*
  - (cf. 9010 - Public Statements)*

**ROLE OF THE BOARD** (continued)

6. Communication: Serve as active ambassadors of the District's instructional programs and schools. Also ensure that the community, parents/guardians, and students receive accurate and timely information through consistent channels in an understandable manner.

The Board is authorized to establish and finance any program or activity that is not in conflict with, inconsistent with, or preempted by law. (Education Code 35160)

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

5304 Duties of governing board (re school district elections)  
12400-12405 Authority to participate in federal programs  
17565-17592 Board duties re property maintenance and control  
33319.5 Implementation of authority of local agencies  
35000 District name  
35010 Control of district; prescription and enforcement of rules  
35020-35046 Officers and agents  
35100-35351 Governing boards, especially:  
35160-35185 Powers and duties  
35291 Rules

*Management Resources:*

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Maximizing School Board Governance

Professional Governance Standards, November 2000

School Board Leadership: The Role and Function of California's School Boards, 1996

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION PUBLICATIONS

The Key Work of School Boards, 2000

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

National School Boards Association: <http://www.nsba.org>