



ROLE OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD

The School Board comprises of members from the staff, parent body and community members and is led by the Chair. Board members are elected by the staff and parent bodies. Nominations will usually be called to fill Board vacancies. The process for nomination will be publicised at the time nominations are called for.

The Board is broadly representative of the school community and acts in the best interests of students and the enhancement of education delivered by Exmouth DHS. In fulfilling its role the Board will undertake the following principal functions:

Promotion Function

- Promote the school in the community.

Reporting Function

- Endorse the annual report.

Communication Function

- Inform the school community about the Board's functions and activities.
- Liaise with other school committees regarding the Board's functions.

Review Function

Audit:

- School performance; and
- Parent, staff and student satisfaction.

Strategic Function

- Endorse the Delivery and Performance Agreement
- Participate in developing the Business Plan and reviewing its implementation
- Reviewing performance against Business Plan objectives.

Financial Function

Review and endorse the annual school budget.

Approve:

- Student costs, charges and contributions; and
- Advertising and sponsorship arrangements.
- Participate in financial planning for funding school objectives, priorities and policy directions

Policy Function

Assist in making and reviewing:

- School objectives, priorities and policy directions;
- All school policies;
- Codes of conduct for students; and
- Dress codes for students

Board Member Responsibilities

Board members do not represent specific interest groups or advocate special interest. The role of Board members is generally providing strategic direction and advice. Unlike corporate and public sector boards, Board members do not provide oversight of day-to-day operations by the executive.

Individual Board members will act in accordance with the direction once determined by the Board, unless changed or revisited by the Board. Board members must not publicly advocate contrary to that determined by the Board. Board members will act in accordance with the requirements of the Schools Education Act 1999 and adopted Code of Conduct and Terms of Reference.

Relationship with the Principal

As the Principal is the responsible officer for the educational leadership, operations and management of the school, the Board cannot:

- Intervene in the control and management of the school;
- Intervene in the educational instruction of students;

- Intervene in the management of operation of a school fund;
- Discuss individual issues relating to teachers, staff or parents;
- Borrow money or obtain funds;
- Purchase property;
- Exercise authority over teaching staff or other persons employed at the school; or
- Performance-manage the Principal or any other Department of Education employee.

Control or management concerns held by members of the school community are to be conveyed directly to the Principal and not through the Board. However, the Principal may seek the Board's advice on or the Board may address and raise with the Principal any concerns that affect the satisfaction levels generally of parents, staff and students.

Relationship with the Parents and Citizens' Association

The respective roles of the P&C and the Board are distinctly different, although both share a goal of promoting the interests of the school. The function of the P&C is to promote the interests of the school through:

- Cooperation between parents, teachers, students and members of the general community;
- Assisting in the provision of resources, facilities and amenities for the school; and
- The fostering of community interest in educational matters.

The Board will proactively liaise with the P&C on issues relevant to the Board's functions. The Board and the P&C will work together to ensure the exercise of their functions is complementary. Unlike the Board, the P&C conducts events and functions for the purpose of generating funds for use by the school. The Board's financial function does not extend to the P&C's activities.

SCHOOL BOARD PURPOSE

Purpose: All School Board decisions will be made to benefit the academic, social and emotional education and development of our students.

Values:

Accountability:

- Making credible and justifiable decisions
- Acting in the best interest of the school community
- Acting with honesty and transparency

Collaboration:

- Realising shared goals
- Working in partnership
- Sharing knowledge, learning and building consensus

Innovation:

- Seeking new ideas and opportunities
- Striving for continuous development

Integrity:

- Making decisions consistent with the values and purpose of the Board
- Following through with our commitments
- Doing what is right

Respect:

- Being open to other points of view
- Valuing diversity of opinion and cultural background

Regards,

Ray Denholm
Principal
Exmouth District High School