

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Membership: The Board of Education (“Board”) is the governing body of the District and shall consist of five (5) members elected by the school district electors or appointed as provided by law. Members shall serve a term of five (5) years or until such time as their successors are duly appointed or elected and have qualified as prescribed by law. Any vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled by appointment by the Board or, if such appointment is not made, by a special election called as provided by law. Eligibility to be a candidate for a position on the Board shall be determined by law. After election or appointment and prior to beginning their term, members of the Board shall take such oaths of office as are required by law.

Conflicts of Interest: No person shall be elected or appointed to serve on the Board if he or she is related to any other member of the Board or any employee of the District in the degree prohibited by law. The Board shall not make any contract with any of its members or with any company, individual, or business concern in which any of its members shall be directly or indirectly interested, except as provided by law.

Powers and Duties of Board: The Board shall have all powers and duties expressly set forth in the laws of the State of Oklahoma, those powers implied by law, and those powers necessary to carry out the duties imposed on it. The Board shall be responsible for the development of policy and guidelines for the administration of the District and shall be responsible for the adoption of a budget appropriate for the District’s goals.

Authority of Board: All of the powers of the Board lie in its action as a group; therefore, individual Board members exercise their authority over District affairs only as they vote to take action at a legal meeting of the Board. No individual member of the Board, including the President, shall have the power and/or the authority to act individually on behalf of the District or to bind the District unless the Board, pursuant to a vote, has delegated such authority to the individual Board member. The District’s employees and the public at large shall take notice that the District can only be bound by Board action or through authority specifically delegated by the Board.

Board Committees: The Board functions at regular and special meetings of the Board as a committee of the whole. In addition, the Board President may appoint standing committees who shall advise the rest of the Board. Committees shall meet from time to time to consider matters in more specific detail and understanding than can normally be considered during the proceedings of a Board meeting.

Election and Duties of Officers:

- A. Election of President and Vice President: At the first regular, special, or emergency meeting following the annual school election and certification of election of new members, the Board shall elect from its membership a president and a vice president, each of whom shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until a successor is elected and qualified.
- B. Election of Board Clerk: The Board shall also elect a Board Clerk and, in its discretion, a Deputy Board Clerk, who may or may not be members of the Board. The Board Clerk and the Deputy Board Clerk, if elected, shall hold office during the pleasure of the Board and shall receive such compensation for services as the Board may allow. If the Board elects a Board Clerk who is not a member of the Board, the Board Clerk may also be employed as the Encumbrance Clerk and/or the Minute Clerk. No superintendent, principal, treasurer, assistant treasurer, instructor, or teacher employed by the Board may be elected to serve as Board Clerk, Deputy Board Clerk, Encumbrance Clerk, or Minute Clerk. The Deputy Board Clerk may perform any duties and exercise any of the powers of the Board Clerk.
- C. Duties of the Officers: The duties of these officers are as follows:
1. President: It shall be the duty of the President to preside over all meetings of the Board, to sign all warrants ordered drawn by the Board upon the school treasury for disbursement of school funds, to make appointments to committees as is necessary, and to perform such other duties delegated by the Board as required by law.
 2. Vice President: It shall be the duty of the Vice President to perform the duties of the President in case of the absence or disability of the President.
 3. Clerk: It shall be the duty of the Board Clerk to countersign all warrants drawn upon the treasury by the Board, to attest in writing all deed, contracts, reports, and other instruments which are to be executed by the Board, and to perform such other duties as the Board may require.

Education for Board Members: As required by law, Board members shall complete the necessary hours of instruction on education issues. If a Board member fails to complete the required hours of education within the time allowed, the Board shall declare the position vacant and fill the vacancy according to law. In addition, the failure to comply with the continuing education requirements of the law shall result in the board member being ineligible for reelection.

Code of Ethics and Conduct: Each Board member shall

1. Be a good listener;
2. Generally refrain from publicly committing the Board member on any question or issue prior to an official Board meeting when all necessary information to make a sound decision is provided;
3. Be knowledgeable and respectful of the role of the Board, its members, and the Superintendent and administration;
4. Attend all Board meetings to the extent possible; and
5. Keep informed and take advantage of opportunities to learn more about the needs in education in the District, the state, and the nation.