

Faribault School Board Candidate Seminar

Purpose:

- Present a clear picture of the role of a School Board member
- Reflect on why you want to serve
- Give a realistic picture of time commitment
- Bust the myths of what School Board members can and cannot do.

Topics:

- Governance
- Policy
- Meetings
- Committee Assignments
- Training Opportunities
- School Board Member Legal Requirements

Qualities of a good School Board member:

- Trustworthy
- Committed
- Passionate about public education
- Ethical
- Collaborative
- Strong communicator
- Able to make difficult decisions

Why are you considering serving as a Faribault Public School Board member?

- Asked to serve
- Saw a need
- Community Service

- Feel that your experience would enhance the District

Governance:

The School Board is a group of elected individuals who represent the community. What does the School Board do?

- Works to ensure effective, efficient, and equitable delivery of high-quality instruction through policy.
- Hire, direct, and evaluate the superintendent who handles the day-to-day management of the District.
- Approves the District budget.
- Serves as a liaison between the community constituents and school staff.
- Works together as a School Board and through the Administrative Team to accomplish established District goals.

Policy:

School board policy allows the School Board to exert its influence, exercise its authority, and create the educational programs needed and desired.

School board policy is written to accomplish the following goals:

- To provide guidance, continuity, and consistency in the decision-making process by the school board and administration. - To state “why” a school board wants a certain action to occur and state “what” the school board wants to accomplish through that action.
- To give enough guidance to the administration to implement school board policy, yet enough flexibility to allow the administration to carry out the policy on a daily basis.
- To provide boundaries within which the educational program can operate.
- To achieve efficiency by not repeatedly discussing the same issues.
- To formally reflect the school board’s authority to make rules and regulations that have the force and effect of law.

- To provide a framework for the operation of the District consistent with state and federal law.

Budget:

- The School Board, in working with the District Administrative Team, approves the budget. The Administrative Team is then responsible for operating within that budget.

Meetings:

- Two full School Board meetings per month
 - Regular Board meeting:
 - 2-3 hours
 - Worksession:
 - 2-3 hours
- Meeting with the Superintendent - monthly before the Business meeting
- **Committee Meetings:**
 - Number of meetings depends on the committee
 - Usually, meetings are 45-60 minutes
 - A list of committee meetings is included.

Salary:

- Directors - \$325.00 per month
- Chair - \$400.00 per month

Training Opportunities

New school board members will be given the opportunity and encouraged to attend the orientation and training sessions offered by the Minnesota School Boards Association (MSBA), as per M.S. 123B.09 and M.S. 127.19.

- Phase I - Learning to Lead
- Phase II - Leadership Foundations - School Finance and Management

- Phase III - Building a High-Performance School Board Team
- Phase IV - Representing Your Community Through Policy and Engagement
- MSBA Webinars - various topics
- MSBA Annual Leadership Conference - Minneapolis - January
- Faribault School Board Mentor

Board Member Legal Requirements:

- MSBA Document