

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 719  
PRIOR LAKE - SAVAGE AREA SCHOOLS**201 LEGAL STATUS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD****I. PURPOSE**

The care, management and control of the schools is vested by statutory and constitutional authority in the school board. The purpose of this policy is to define the authority, duties and powers of the school board in carrying out its responsibilities in the best interest of the school district.

**II. DEFINITION**

“School board” means the governing body of the school district.

**III. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY****A. Membership**

1. The school board shall consist of seven (7) members in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes.
2. Members of the school board shall serve four (4) year terms of office beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31. Board members shall be elected each even numbered year on the regular Election Day in November. Board members will be elected on an alternate schedule, with four (4) members elected one (1) cycle and three (3) members elected in the following cycle.
3. There may be other ex officio members of the school board as provided by law. The superintendent and student representatives are ex officio members.

**B. Powers and Duties**

1. The school board has powers and duties specified by statute. The school board's authority includes implied powers in addition to specific powers granted by the legislature. Elected members of the school board have binding authority only when acting as a school board legally in session, except where specific authority is provided to school board members or officers individually. The school board is not bound by an action or statement on the part of an individual school board member unless the action is specifically directed or authorized by the school board.
2. The school board oversees administrative functions, adopts and revises policy, and is the final body for appealing administrative decisions.
3. The school board shall approve all contracts and obligations as described in MN Statute.

4. The school board, in accordance with MN Statute, has delegated all management of the district to the superintendent, its programs and services, and district procedures needed to implement district policy.
5. The school board shall perform the following in accordance with applicable law:
  - a. provide necessary funds for the operation of schools and programs, the payment of indebtedness, and all appropriate expenses of the school district through tax levies and fees;
  - b. employ and contract with necessary qualified teachers and administrators and discharge the same for cause;
  - c. employ and discharge necessary employees and contract for other services;
  - d. provide services to promote the health of its pupils;
  - e. provide and name school buildings and grounds;
  - f. purchase, sell, exchange, and dispose of school district property and equipment;
  - g. provide for defense of actions by or against the school district; claims against the school district; and prosecution for legal or contractual violations against the school district;
  - h. provide for transportation of students to and from school, as governed by statute; and
  - i. procure insurance against liability of the school district, its officers, and employees.
6. The school board, at its discretion, may perform the following:
  - a. provide library facilities, adult and community education programs, and summer school;
  - b. furnish school breakfasts and lunches for students and teachers on such terms as the school board determines;
  - c. enter into agreements with one or more other independent school districts to provide for agreed upon educational services;
  - d. lease rooms or buildings for school purposes;
  - e. authorize the use of school facilities for community purposes that will not interfere with their use for school purposes;
  - f. authorize co-curricular activities;
  - g. receive, for the benefit of the school district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose; and
  - h. form partnerships and/or ad hoc committees for the purpose of addressing short and long-term identified needs.

- i. perform other acts as the school board shall deem to be reasonably necessary or required for the governance of the schools.

C. COMPENSATION

1. Members and officers shall receive compensation, as established by the school board.
2. Compensation rates shall be established by the school board at the annual organizational meeting to be held in January of each year.

School Board Adoption: November 4, 2019

An Equal Opportunity School District