VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT TWENTY-FOUR

SCHOOL BOARD LEGAL STATUS AND OBLIGATIONS

Policy 9100

The Board of Education is a seven (7) member Board elected by School District residents. The term of each member of the Board is three (3) years. The terms of office of Board of Education members shall not all expire in the same year.

The Board of Education is a corporate body that oversees and manages the School District's affairs, personnel and properties. Its powers and responsibilities are held jointly. The Board of Education's actions must be expressed by resolutions or motions adopted or passed by a majority of the Board of Education at a legally called meeting.

Members of the Board of Education have legal authority for the conduct of the district schools only when acting as a body in a properly convened session. Board of Education members acting as individuals have no authority over personnel or school affairs.

Individual board members have only such power and responsibility as may, from time to time, be specifically delegated to them for a particular purpose by the Board as a whole. Otherwise, an individual board member is not empowered to set policies, make decisions, or give instructions to any employee of the school district. Direction and instruction from the corporate body shall in all instances be communicated to staff members through the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee.

The Board of Education will not be bound in any way by an individual's statement or action unless the Board of Education, through an adopted policy or by a majority vote of Board of Education membership, has delegated this authority to the individual member.

The Board of Education is entrusted with the responsibility of developing policies under which the School District is managed. The Board of Education has all the powers and duties stated in the Education Law and other applicable New York State law.

The Board of Education recognizes that a comprehensive accountability system is necessary to improve the effectiveness of the Board of Education in providing leadership and the highest quality educational and support services.

Consistent with its obligations and commitments, the Board of Education will:

- receive regular reports by the Superintendent of Schools concerning School District grievances and operations.
- evaluate the performance of the Superintendent of Schools in accordance with Board policy and the Board's agreement with the Superintendent of Schools.
- evaluate progress toward the achievement of long-term and short-term goals and ensure that Board of Education policies and resources effectively support the vision of the Board of Education.
- 4. provide appropriate staff and Board of Education training opportunities.

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5. fulfill governance responsibilities as required by state and federal law.

The Board of Education acknowledges that publicizing the Board of Education's progress and performance is important to maintaining the community's trust and support. The Board of Education is committed to keeping the public aware of such progress and performance.

Ref: Education Law § 1709 et seq

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