

# Governance Policy

## Governance Process

The board will govern with emphasis on organizational vision rather than interpersonal issues of the board members; encourage diversity in viewpoints; focus on strategic leadership rather than administrative detail; observe clear distinction between board and administrator roles; make collective rather than individual decisions; exhibit future orientation rather than past or present; and govern proactively rather than reactively.

Accordingly:

1. The board will cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The board will work in partnership with the administrator, staff, students, parents and the community. The board, not the administrator or staff, will be responsible for excellence in governing. The board will use the expertise of individual board members to enhance the ability of the board as a body, but will not substitute individual judgments for the board's collective values
2. The board will hold itself accountable to govern with excellence. This self-discipline will apply to matters such as attendance, preparation for meetings, policymaking principles, respect of roles, and ensuring the continuity of governance capability
3. The board will direct and inspire the school through the careful establishment of written policies reflecting the board's and community's values and perspectives. The board's major policy focus will be on the intended long-term benefits for students, not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those benefits
4. Continuous board development will keep all board members current with the board's governance process, and periodic board discussions and evaluation of process will be conducted to assure continued improvement
5. The board will allow no officer, individual or committee of the board to hinder or be an excuse for not fulfilling its commitments
6. The board will monitor specific Governance Process Policies on an annual basis. Evaluation will include verbal discussion of board policies and any governance issues any board member wishes to monitor.