

RSU BOARD STANDING COMMITTEES: ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTION

The Regional School Unit #26 Board of Directors believes that standing committees can be useful to its decision-making process and in the transaction of Board business. The Board may establish such standing committees as it deems necessary to facilitate school unit governance and address ongoing school unit needs. A standing committee has only such authority as specified by the Board.

All standing committees shall be comprised of less than a majority of the Board.

All standing committee meetings are open to the public except as provided by the Freedom of Access Law and the Municipal Public Employees Labor Relations Law.

Establishment and Functions of Standing Committees of the RSU #26 Board of Directors

The following provisions apply to the establishment and functions of standing committees of the RSU #26 Board of Directors:

- A. All standing committees shall be established by vote of the Board. A motion to establish a standing committee shall state the purpose and responsibilities of the committee. The Board of Directors will also set the number of members comprising the committee.
- B. The Board Chair is responsible for appointing members to a standing committee from among the membership of the Board. This can be accomplished through soliciting volunteers, reaching a consensus through Board discussion, or by direct appointment by the Chair. The Board prefers a voluntary and consensus-based approach to committee formation.
- C. The Board Chair may make appointments to standing committee vacancies that occur prior to the Board's next organizational meeting.
- D. The term of appointment to a standing committee shall be until the next organizational meeting.
- E. Each standing committee will elect its own chair.
- F. The Board Chair and Superintendent shall be ex officio (non-voting) members of all standing committees. The board chair may alternatively serve as a regular member of a committee if appointed according to the terms of this policy including not having more than two voting members on the committee.
- G. Any Board member may attend standing committee meetings, but only appointed members of the committee may vote. Each standing committee member's vote counts as one.
- H. Except as authorized by law or Board action, a standing committee may research issues and make recommendations for Board action, but may not act for the Board.
- I. A standing committee may be abolished at any time by a vote of the Board. J. The number of members on a standing committee and/or the responsibilities of a standing committee may be modified at any time by a vote of the Board.

Appointment of board members to committees and working groups other than board subcommittees

It is common that committees for various functions including but not limited to hiring committees, strategic plan design or implementation committees and other functions will be formed to help in operation of the school district. Such committees may have members from a variety of stakeholder groups and not exist as a formal subcommittee of the board under the other terms of this policy. If board representation on such a committee is called for by board policy or other implementation documents or is desired by the superintendent, then the board itself shall be in charge of choosing its representation to those committees. The superintendent shall give the board due notice of a request to select members. At a regularly scheduled board meeting, the board shall choose who shall represent it on the committee by the same selection process identified in BDE-R. The board shall also choose whether it will send one or two representatives, excepting that for committees with less than six non-board members, it will send only one representative to avoid increasing the size unduly. The board cannot name more than two members as this would represent a majority of the board.

Legal Reference: 1 M.R.S.A. § 401 et seq. (MRSA 20-A §1001(8))

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