



Rutland City Board of School Commissioners Board Operating Protocols

For the purpose of enhancing teamwork among members of the Board and between the Board and administration, we commit collectively and individually to the following operating protocols:

1. The Board will represent the needs and interests of ALL the children in our district.
2. The Board will lead by example. While we encourage debate and differing points of view, we will do it with care and respect.
3. We agree to ask the Board Chair or the Superintendent to place an item on the agenda, instead of bringing it up unexpectedly at the meeting unless the issue is emergent and requires immediate attention.
4. The Board will encourage others to follow District policies on complaint procedures by presenting concerns, problems or proposals to the person who can properly and expeditiously address the issue.
5. To be efficient and effective, long Board meetings should be avoided. If a Board member needs more detailed information about an item on the agenda, the Board member should contact the Chair or Superintendent in advance of the meeting. Items brought up during the meeting that are not on the agenda may be tabled until a later date.
6. The Board will consider research, best practice, public input, and financial impacts in its decision-making.
7. The Board will speak to the issues on the agenda. Facts and information needed from the administration will be referred to the Superintendent for follow-up.
8. The agenda will allow time for focused discussions on Board and District goals and outcomes, and alignment with strategy and practices.
9. Board members will honor the confidentiality of Executive Sessions.

10. The Board commits itself to continuous improvement and goal-setting through semi-annual retreats at minimum.
11. The Board and Superintendent will facilitate goal-setting for the District.
12. Board members will come prepared to meetings.
13. Individual Board members do not have authority. Only the Board in total has authority. The Board Chair or his/her designee will be the Board spokesperson.
14. When Board members serve on various non-Board committees, or attend such committee meetings, the Board member's role is that of a liaison to the Board and, when addressing the committee, shall be as an individual.
15. The Board will establish the vision, create policies, and ensure accountability. The Superintendent shall manage the schools.

Adopted November 12, 2019