

## What Does the School Board Do?

The school district is governed by the school board, who is elected by the district's registered voters. The school board is authorized to:

- Establish policies that direct the school district;
- Employ and evaluate the superintendent;
- Negotiate with employee groups to determine salaries and benefits;
- Approve the annual budget;
- Authorize elections on bond proposals and other issues;
- Determine the long-range direction of the district; and
- Communicate with the community.

## Who Can Be a School Board Member?

The school board members are elected from the district to serve three-year terms.

To be eligible for election, a person must be a qualified voter and reside in the district for one year immediately preceding the election. Terms of office begin and end with the district's fiscal year, July 1<sup>st</sup>. For more information on how to become a school board member, contact the business office.

## Other Ways to Participate in Your School District

### As a Volunteer

From working with students in the classroom to helping with other activities or events, there are a multitude of ways you can help. Please contact the school for more information.

### As a Member of a Special Committee

The school board occasionally appoints special advisory committees to investigate areas of concern. If you would like to serve on a special committee, contact the administration or the school board president.

### School Board Members

Shannon Nordstrom, President  
[shannon.nordstrom@k12.sd.us](mailto:shannon.nordstrom@k12.sd.us); 201-7000

Kari Flanagan, Vice President  
[kari.flanagan@k12.sd.us](mailto:kari.flanagan@k12.sd.us); 310-3134

Rachel Hanisch  
[Rachel.Hanisch@k12.sd.us](mailto:Rachel.Hanisch@k12.sd.us); 321-4170

Tony Martens  
[tony.martens@k12.sd.us](mailto:tony.martens@k12.sd.us); 941-2976

Ruth Sarar  
[ruth.sarar@k12.sd.us](mailto:ruth.sarar@k12.sd.us); 594-3781

## Welcome to the Garretson School District 49-4 School Board Meeting



## Mission: Creating a Gateway to Life-Long Learning.

We are pleased you took the time to join us. As elected school board members, we are interested in your concerns and opinions.

## School Board Meetings

The regular school board meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month in the library at 5:45 p.m. Special meetings are scheduled when needed. These meetings are open to the public and announced in advance. Executive session is closed to the public and used for personnel, student, and legal issues. Actions resulting from discussion in executive session must be taken in public, except for student expulsion.

The school board agenda is available before each school board meeting and can be obtained from the business office or the web. The agenda has three major categories:

**Consent Agenda** consists of routine items such as previous school board minutes, routine personnel actions, and routine financial transactions. Normally there is little or no discussion on these items.

**Action Items** are addressed individually by the school board and may include reports from district administrators.

**Reports** are presented for the school board's information and require no formal action.

## Public Participation at School Board Meetings

The school board welcomes citizens of the district to attend its sessions so they may become better acquainted with the operation and programs of the school. In order to assure that citizens who wish to appear before the school board be heard, and at the same time conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the following procedures and policies have been adopted:

1. Any individual who desires to speak about an item on the agenda is asked to present the "request to speak" to the superintendent, the business manager, or the school board president.
2. Persons who wish to speak about an item that is not on the agenda are asked to present such a request to the superintendent or the school board president prior to the beginning of the meeting. Persons who present such a request will be allowed to speak about the topic before the meeting is adjourned.
3. Citizens who desire school board action on an item not on the agenda shall submit the item to the superintendent's office at least 10 days prior to the school board meeting at which they wish for the item to be considered.
4. Presentations should be as brief as possible. Unless an extension of time is granted, a speaker shall be limited to five minutes.

The school board vests in its president or other presiding officer authority to terminate the remarks of any individual when they do not adhere to the rules established above.

## Guidelines to Follow for Public Complaints or Questions

1. Matters concerning individual students should first be addressed to the teacher or coach.
2. Unsettled matters from (1) above or problems and questions concerning individual schools should be directed to the principal of the school.
3. Unsettled matters from (2) above or problems and questions concerning the system should be directed to the superintendent.
4. The school board will consider hearing citizen complaints when they cannot be resolved by the administration. Matters referred to the school board must be in writing and should be specific in terms of the complaint and the action desired. The school board will not consider or act on complaints that have not been explored at the appropriate administration level.

If necessary, the administration, the person who made the complaint, or the employee involved may request an executive session of the school board for the purpose of further study and decision by this body.