# **BOARD OFFICERS AND DUTIES OF BOARD MEMBERS**

## **Chair/President**

The *chair/president* shall preside at all meetings of the board and sign all papers and documents as required by law or as authorized by action of the board. The *chair/president* shall conduct the meetings in the manner prescribed by the board's policies, provided that the *chair/president* shall have the full right to participate in all aspects of board action without relinquishing the chair, including the right to vote on all matters put to a vote.

It shall be the responsibility of the board *chair/president* to manage the board's deliberation so that it shall be clear, concise, and directed to the issue at hand; summarize discussion and/or action before moving on to the next agenda item; and to generally manage the meeting so that the agenda is treated in an expeditious manner.

The *chair/president* shall be the official recipient of correspondence directed to the board and shall provide, or cause to be provided to other board members and the superintendent, copies of the correspondence received on behalf of the board.

When time and circumstance demand an immediate decision from the board, and the board has no opportunity to confer, the *chair/president* is authorized to make decisions on behalf of the board provided, however, that the decision shall be communicated as soon as practical thereafter to all members of the board for review and ratification.

In dealing with the media and the public in general, the *chair/president* or his/her designee will serve as the spokesperson of the board. The *chair/president* is authorized to report and discuss those actions which have been taken and those decisions made by the board as a body. The *chair/president* shall avoid speculating upon actions or decisions which the board may take but has not yet taken.

The *chair/president* shall confer with the superintendent regarding sensitive issues which need immediate attention. When appropriate, he/she will confer with individual board members when other opinions should be sought.

### **Officers of the Board: Vice Chair/President**

The *vice chair/president* shall preside at board meetings in the absence of the *chair/president* and shall perform all of the duties of the president in case of his/her absence or disability.

### Legislative Representative

A legislative representative shall serve as the board's liaison with the Washington State School Directors' Association Legislative Assembly. The legislative representative shall attend Washington State School Directors' Association Assemblies, conveying local views and concerns to that body and participating in the formulation of state legislative programs. The legislative representative shall monitor proposed school legislation and inform the board of the issues.

#### **Duties of Individual Board Members**

The authority of individual board members is limited to participating in actions taken by the board as a whole when legally in session. Board members shall not assume responsibilities of administrators or other staff members. The board or staff shall not be bound in any way by any action taken or statement made by any individual board member except when such statement or action is pursuant to specific instructions and official action taken by the board.

Each board member shall review the agenda and any study materials distributed prior to the meeting and be prepared to participate in the discussion and decision-making for each agenda item.

Each member is obligated to attend board meetings regularly. Whenever possible, each director shall give advance notice to the president or superintendent of his/her inability to attend a board meeting. A majority of the board may excuse a director's absence from a meeting if requested to do so. The board may declare a board member's position vacant after four consecutive unexcused absences from regular board meetings.

Legal References:	RCW 28A.343.390	Directors — Quorum — Failure to attend meetings may result in vacation of office
	RCW 28A.320	Provisions applicable to all districts
	RCW 28A.330.100	Additional powers of the board
	RCW 28A.330.030	Duties of president
	RCW 28A.330.080	Payment of Claims — Signing of warrants
	RCW 28A.330.200	Organization of the board
	RCW 28A.330.040	Duties of vice-president
		-

Adoption Date: 10.23.07 Ridgefield School District Revised: 04.01.97; 10.23.07 Classification: Optional