

# BOARD DEVELOPMENT

TOPIC: WORKING WITH OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS & STAKEHOLDERS

APRIL 24, 2025, REGULAR BOARD MEETING

STRATEGIC PRIORITY

HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING

ENGAGEMENT OF ALL STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

EFFECTIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE PHYSICAL & SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS

## Information for the Board - 10 Fast Facts

These fast facts provide a foundation for trustees, particularly new ones, to understand their responsibilities, ethical expectations, and the scope of their role within the Good Spirit School Division.

### 1 The Board is a Corporate Body, Not Individual Voices

- Trustees represent the Board collectively. When working with MLAs, MPs, Chief & Council, or SCCs, speak from Board-approved direction, not personal opinion.

### 2 Build Relationships with Purpose

- Regular communication with MLAs, MPs, Chiefs, and SSBA Executives helps shape educational policy and funding. Be seen as solution-focused, respectful, and proactive.



### 3 Engagement ≠ Endorsement

- Engaging stakeholders—especially SCCs and Indigenous leadership—means listening and learning, not always agreeing. It's about dialogue over division.



### 4 Advocacy is a Board Responsibility

- The Board must review and approve an annual advocacy plan: Who will we speak to, about what, and how will we measure progress?



### 5 Support the Director as Spokesperson

- While the Director leads public communications, trustees may engage when appropriate—but should do so in alignment with the division's messaging and protocols.

### 6 Community Trust Is Earned Through Transparency

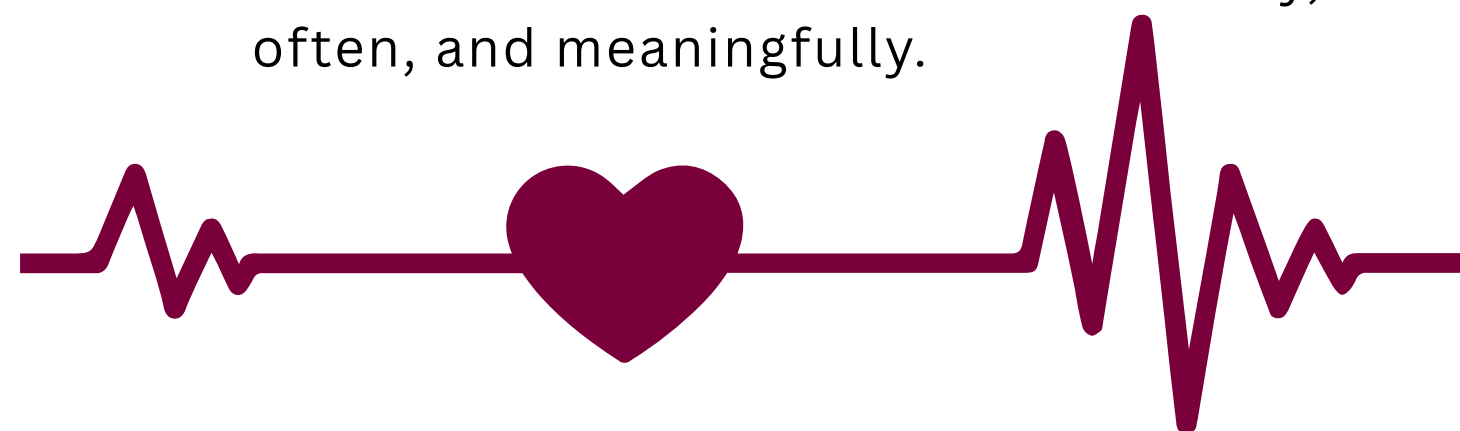
- Model respectful dialogue, be honest, and clearly explain complex decisions in plain language. Honour confidentiality but communicate with clarity.

### 7 Leverage SSBA as a Strategic Partner

- The SSBA Executive and staff are not just advocates—they're resources for messaging, media support, governance advice, and navigating provincial discussions.

### 8 SCCs Are Your Front Line for Public Voice

- SCCs represent the heartbeat of school communities. Consult with them early, often, and meaningfully.



### 9 Engagement Isn't Optional—It's Your Job

- The Board must establish, monitor, and model processes for public participation, collaboration, and co-creation of solutions—especially during times of tension or change.

### 10 Boards Guide, Others Govern

- MPs and MLAs legislate. Chiefs lead their Nations. Trustees govern public education in their division. Stay in your lane, but collaborate to improve outcomes for all learners.

