

**MOOSE FACTORY ISLAND
DISTRICT SCHOOL AREA BOARD**

BOARD POLICY NO. GOV-14	
Approved	
Last Revised	
Board Motion	

BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT

1. PURPOSE

Moose Factory Island District School Area Board has developed this governance policy to ensure accountability for the effective governance of the school system, and system effectiveness that will positively affect student achievement and well-being.

This policy parallels Board policy related to the supervisory officer's performance review.

This Board policy provides a collaborative and agreed-upon process for the Board's self-assessment of its governance performance. The process is intended to provide the Board with concrete feedback that can be used as a basis for continuous improvement.

2. POLICY

- 2.1 Moose Factory Island District School Area Board believes that a properly conducted self-assessment of the Board's governance performance benefits the Board, ensures high standards for system leadership, enhances the relationship between the supervisory officer and the Board, and models the importance of accountability for the system.
- 2.2 The process for the Board's self-assessment provides a forum for constructive dialogue and exchange of information among the members of the Board. The process allows for the opportunity to review past accomplishments and progress. The process will normally be completed annually. The end result will provide clear direction for the Board's governance performance in the subsequent year.
- 2.3 The process is characterized throughout by transparency and open communication, balanced by professional confidentiality and respect for all parties.

3. BOARD EXPECTATIONS

- 3.1 The chair is responsible for leading the self-assessment process with the Board. It is recommended that all trustees provide feedback on the assessment.
- 3.2 The components of the Board self-assessment may include:
 - a) review of Board role performance as described in Board policy;
 - b) review of Board support for the multi-year plan;

- c) monitoring of interpersonal working relationships;
- d) monitoring of Board representation and communication;
- e) monitoring relations between the Board and supervisory officer;
- f) review of Board governance policies; and
- g) creating a positive path forward.

3.3 The Board self-evaluation is intended to answer such questions as the following:

- a) How well have we adhered to the Board vision, mission, and values; role of the corporate Board; and governance By-Laws?
- b) How well have we supported our multi-year plan?
- c) How do we rate our interpersonal working relationships?
- d) How well do we receive input and communicate?
- e) Are political dynamics and constituency-based interests handled constructively and appropriately?
- f) How would we rate our Board/supervisory officer relations?
- g) What have we accomplished this past year? How do we know?

3.4 The Board will use a variety of evaluation tools and activities. The Board will determine in advance of the annual self-assessment:

- a) what information will be collected;
- b) how it will be collected and by whom;
- c) who will have access to the information;
- d) how it will be analyzed and compiled;
- e) when and how it will be discussed and whether a facilitator will be asked to assist in the discussions;
- f) how reporting and feedback will occur;
- g) how assessment results will be acted upon; and
- h) how recommendations related to approved changes will be monitored.

3.5 Collection of information to inform the assessment may include:

- a) a review of Board motions;
- b) interviews with Board members and the supervisory officer;
- c) surveys of trustees and other stakeholders;
- d) focus groups with community members and other stakeholders; and/or
- e) use of an outside facilitator.

3.6 The end result of the self-assessment will be the development and implementation of a specific plan that details accomplishments and, where appropriate, redirection, along with an agreement on objectives for the improvement of governance practices for the coming year.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS***Legal References:***

Education Act. S 169.1 Duties and Powers of Boards

Board References:

Board Policy GOV-01 Vision, Mission, and Values

Board Policy GOV-02 Strategic Directions and Key Priorities

Board Policy GOV-03 Role of the Corporate Board

Board Governance By-Laws

Resource:

Ontario Education Services Corporation. (OESC) Centre for Governance Excellence. *Professional Development Program for School Board Trustees*. Module 5b: Board Self-Assessment: Governance Performance. <http://ontarioschooltrustees.org/>