

Board Retreat
Monday, February 7, 2022
the School Library
7:00 PM Central

1. Call to order and roll call
2. Request to address the Board of Education
3. New Business
 - 3.a. Review and revise board operating principles and discussion regarding the onboarding processes and procedures for new board members and board code of conduct
 - 3.b. Discussion regarding the strategic planning process
 - 3.c. Discussion regarding the board's role in supporting a positive staff morale
4. Adjournment

SHELTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION OPERATING PRINCIPLES

MISSION

The mission of the Shelton Public Schools is to prepare students to read comprehensively, write clearly and purposefully, compute mathematically, communicate effectively, and utilize information and technology to create solutions for 21st Century Learning.

VISION

Our vision is to create an educational system that promotes the development of the whole person (mind, body, soul) encourages students to be their very best, fosters relationships, self-discipline, and the joy of learning through a relevant and rigorous curriculum that emphasizes student practice and teacher feedback.

As members of the SHELTON Public Schools Board of Education, we are committed to the following principles to educate the youth of this community.

Board Principle #1: Educational Advocacy

- As educational advocates we are to assure that the school is run, but we are not to run the school.
- We will advocate for every student to maximize their educational opportunities utilizing available resources.
- We believe that the most important responsibility of Shelton Public Schools is to provide EVERY child with a quality education.
- We will allocate the resources necessary to provide high quality programs, staff and facilities for our students.

Board Principle #2: Leadership & Leadership Development

A. As the Board of Education:

- We commit to operating with integrity, and ethics will guide our decision-making.
- We dedicate ourselves to provide inspiration and support for each other and to be genuine, honest, and trustworthy.
- We will value all stakeholders to create a culture that values critical thinking, mutual respect, and collaboration between the Board of Education, administration, staff and community.
- We will seek positive contributions of each board member.
- We will seek ways to foster positive, professional relationships.
- Newly elected board members will be provided with a veteran board member mentor.

Board Principle #3: Communications

- We believe that effective communication requires a high level of trust.
- We will have an open and honest communication with our district and community and we will strive to preserve the integrity of Board processes and decisions.
- Information permitted by statute to be discussed in executive discussion will remain confidential. Sharing of such information will be considered unacceptable.
- We will operate on the premise that no one (Superintendent, Board of Education, Administration, etc.) will be surprised during meetings.

Board Principle #4: Response to Concerns

- We will listen to concerns and encourage the patron to follow the established chain of command. It is acceptable to check back with the individual regarding a resolution.
- Board members will inform the superintendent of significant concerns.

Board Principle #5: Decision Making and Collaboration

- We will utilize all stakeholders to develop a shared vision for high quality education for all students.
- We will develop an ongoing review of our curriculum and plan for future needs of students.
- We will gather adequate information from the Administration to make informed decisions.
- We will consider the impact on finance, facilities and staff in the decision-making process.
- We will respect the professional expertise of district staff in the decision-making process.

Board Principle # 6 Accountability and Responsibility

A. Board Members will:

- Attend all school board meetings.
- Attend and participate in meetings on assigned committees.
- Attend special meetings/functions of the district as requested or required (for example, graduation, specific school programs, etc).
- Read and study all necessary documentation prior to discussion on issues or action items.
- Participate in professional development such as attendance at regional or state meetings.
- Will be accountable to the Board for our actions
- Uphold these operating principles and support the action of the Board as a whole, regardless of the individual vote.

B. Board Members will not utilize our position to gain access to confidential information.

C. The duties of the Board of Education are:

- Hire and evaluate the Superintendent's performance. The Superintendent is the only employee the Board oversees
- Adopt, review, and revise policy
- Establish the strategic goals for the District
- Approve the annual budget to reflect and support the strategic plan

Board Principle #7: Format of Meetings

- We will follow Board Policy and statutory laws regulating all open meetings of the Board of Education.
- We will develop meeting agendas cooperatively between the Superintendent and Board President.
- We will recognize student, staff, and district successes.
- We will commit to a yearly Board "Retreat" to establish operating principles, improve communication, set goals for the board of education, and to strategically plan for the future.dop

Adopted _____