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Roles and Responsibilities of the School Board

MISSOURI SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION

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What Is a School Board?

- A governing body, elected by the citizens of the district, with statutory authority to provide governance leadership for the district
- Leader and champion for public education in the community
- Serve the interests of all students, not a subgroup or specific groups of students

Collective Authority

No Individual Authority

- Authority rests with the whole Board
- No individual board member has legal authority to request action from the staff, change policies, or direct operations
- Support the Board once a decision has been made by a majority vote

• Colombo v. Buford, 935 S.W.2d 690(1996)

 – "Unless otherwise authorized by the Board, individual members are not empowered to act and cannot govern."



From Citizen to Board Member

Speak as an individual	Convey the Board's decision and message with one voice
Commiserate about issues & intervene	Direct concerns via chain of command
Respond with opinion, personal experience or anecdotal information	Respond in accordance with policy based on district level data
Respond immediately	Respond as a Board after due diligence & policy guidance
Personal communication	Public communications

Balanced Leadership Roles

	Boards Provide Governance Leadership	Superintendent Provides Administrative Leadership
•	The board acts with their votes and Governing Documents	 Superintendent acts through Procedures
•	Board focus on the "what" or the "ends"	 Superintendent determines the "how" or the "means"
•	The Board provides direction for the Superintendent	 The Superintendent provides direction for the staff

MSB

The School Board's View





The School Board's View



What Does a Board Do?

Board Responsibilities

- Clarify purpose
- Approve annual budget
- Collaborate with superintendent and delegate authority
- Employ and evaluate superintendent
- Monitor district performance
- Connect with the community
- Demonstrate ethical and legal governance

Governing Documents

- School Board Policy
- Strategic Plan
- Budget
- Superintendent Evaluation
- Professional Development Plan
- Board Meeting Agenda

School Board Member Ethics

- Ensure first and primary concern is the educational welfare of all students
- Obey the laws of Missouri and the United States
- Recognize that an individual board member has no authority to speak or act for the board
- Work with other board members to establish effective board policies



School Board Member

Expectations

- Delegate authority for the administration of the schools to the superintendent
- Encourage ongoing communications between board members and stakeholders
- Make every effort to attend all board meetings, work sessions, trainings, and designated district and community events



School Board Member Expectations

- Support employment of staff based on qualifications and not as a result of influence
- Support a process of regular & systematic assessment of the education system to provide accountability for the district
- Improve board governance by studying educational issues & by participating in inservice programs and training



School Board Member Expectations

- Avoid conflicts of interest or the appearance thereof
- Refrain from using board position for the benefit of family members, business associations or for personal gain
- Express personal opinions but, once board has acted, accept will of the majority
- Refrain from divulging confidential information



Am I Ready?

- Commitment to serve every student in the district
- Ready to make the commitment in time
 - Meeting preparation and attendance
 - Local expectations of board members at district and community events
 - 18.5 hours of training required by law
 - Annual refresher training (1 hour)
- Ability to work as a member of a team
- Able to withstand public scrutiny

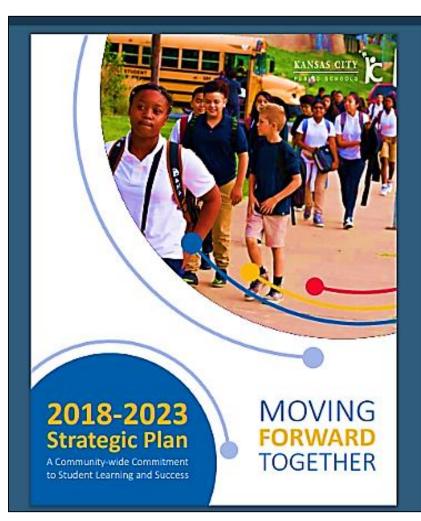
Next Steps: KCPS Operations

- View upcoming school board meetings and/or view videos of prior meetings
- Become familiar with KCPS District Plans and Initiatives
 - https://www.kcpublicschools.org/about/districtplans-initiatives/~board/kcpspublications/post/strategic-plan-scorecards-andprogress-reports

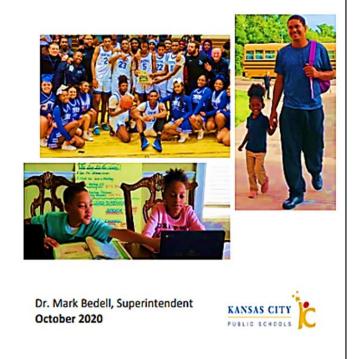




KCPS Strategic Plan and Updates

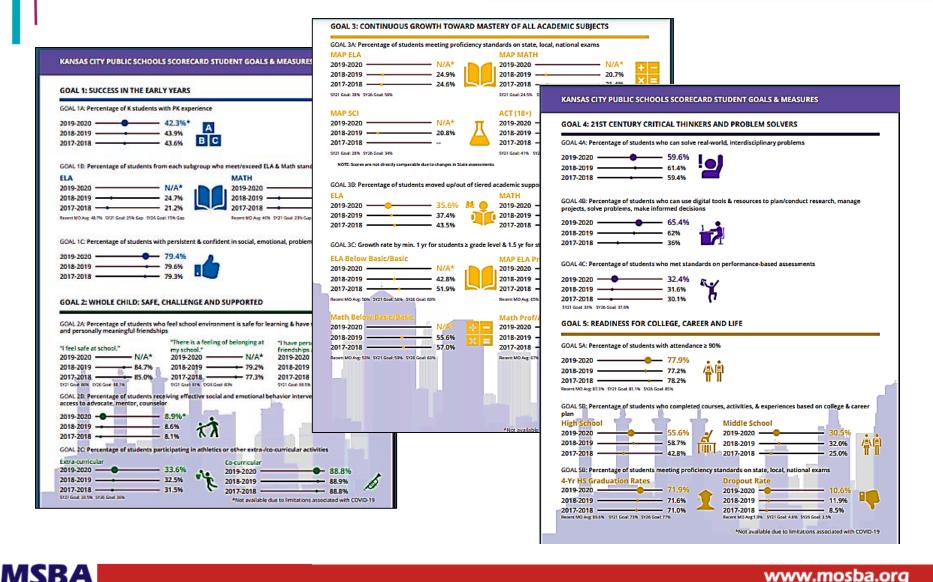


STRATEGIC PLAN END OF YEAR PROGRESS REPORT IT'S OUR TIME! 2019-20 School Year Key Actions





KCPS Scorecard



www.mosba.org

KCPS Blueprint 2030

Kansas City Public Schools Blueprint 2030

KANSAS CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2030 Planning For Our Future



KANSAS CITY

PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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