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**FORT MCMURRAY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF GOVERNANCE POLICY**

**Policy Name: Governing Style**

**Number:**

**GP-2**

**Policy Type: Governance Process**

**Date Approved: June 26, 2000**

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The Board will govern with an emphasis on:

- outward vision rather than an internal preoccupation
- commitment to obtaining community input
- encouragement of diversity in viewpoints
- strategic leadership more than administrative detail
- clear distinction of Board and staff roles
- collective rather than individual decisions
- future rather than past or present
- proactivity rather than reactivity

More specifically, the Board will:

1. Cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The Board, not the staff, will be responsible for excellence in governing. The Board will be an initiator of policy, not merely a reactor to staff initiatives. The Board will use the expertise of individual members to enhance the ability of the Board as a body to make policy, rather than to substitute their individual judgements for the group's values.
2. Direct, control and inspire the organization through the careful establishment of broad written policies reflecting the Board's values and perspectives. The Board's major policy focus will be on the intended long-term impacts outside the operating organization, not on the administrative or programmatic means of attaining those effects.
3. Enforce upon it whatever discipline is needed to govern with excellence. Discipline will apply to matters such as attendance, preparation for meetings, policy-making principles, respect of roles, and ensuring the continuity of governance capability. Continual Board development will include orientation of new members in the Board's governance process and periodic Board discussion of process improvement. The Board will not allow any officer, individual or committee of the Board to hinder or be an excuse for not fulfilling its commitments.

4. Monitor and regularly discuss the Board's process and performance at each meeting. Self-monitoring will include comparison of Board activity and discipline to policies in the Governance Process and Board-Superintendent Relationship categories.