

POLICY 2 ROLE OF THE CHARTER BOARD.

Approved: September 2014 Amended: November 2023 Reviewed: November 2023

Due: 2024-2025

As the body entrusted by the Calgary Girls' School Society to act on behalf of the Society in the operation and management of the School, as set out in article 5 of the Society bylaws, the Charter Board shall provide overall direction and leadership to the Society and is accountable for the provision of appropriate educational services and programs to students' resident within the School, in keeping with the requirements of government legislation and the values of Society members.

The work of the Charter Board will be characterized by thinking and acting in ways that embrace being realistic, adaptable, optimistic, responsive, accountable and clearly focused on the future.

Specific Areas of Responsibility

- 1. Accountability for Student Learning
 - 1.1 Provide overall direction for the School by establishing vision, mission, values, beliefs and goals.
 - 1.2 Annually approve the process and timelines for the refinement of the Three- Year Education
 - 1.3 Identify Charter Board priorities at the outset of the annual Three-Year Education planning process.
 - 1.4 Monitor the achievement of outcomes.
 - 1.5 Annually evaluate the effectiveness of the School in achieving established priorities and desired results.
 - 1.6 Annually approve the "rolling" Three-Year Education Plan/Report for submission to Alberta Education and for distribution to the public.
- 2. Accountability to the CGCS Community
 - Develop and maintain a communication link to the community. 2.1
 - 2.2 Make informed decisions that consider CGCS community values and represent the interests of the Society.
 - 2.3 Establish processes and provide opportunity for focused CGCS community input.
 - 2.4 Promote school programs, needs and desires to the CGCS community.
 - 2.5 Report School outcomes to the CGCS community at least annually.
 - 2.6 Develop appeal procedures and hold hearings as required by statute and/or Charter Board policy.
 - 2.7 Model a culture of respect and integrity.

3. Accountability to Provincial Government

- 3.1 Act in accordance with all statutory requirements to implement provincial educational standards and policies.
- 3.2 Perform Charter Board functions required by governing legislation and existing Charter Board policy.
- 3.3 Ensure adherence to the Charter Mandate.

4. Advocacy

- 4.1 Promote a positive identity for the Calgary Girls Charter School.
- 4.2 Act as an advocate for the Calgary Girls Charter School and the Charter movement.
- 4.3 Develop a plan for advocacy, including focus, key messages, relationships and mechanisms.
- 4.4 Promote regular meetings and maintain timely frank and constructive communication with locally elected officials.
- 4.5 Arrange meetings with elected provincial and federal government officials to communicate and garner support for education.
- 4.6 Work with The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools (TAAPCS) to cooperatively advocate for public charter schools.

5. Policy

- 5.1 Develop, approve and monitor the implementation of policies to guide Calgary Girls Charter School and the Charter Board.
- 5.2 Provide direction in those areas over which the Charter Board wishes to retain authority.

6. Charter Board/Superintendent Relations

- 6.1 Appoint the Superintendent in accordance with section 222 of the *Education Act* and section 6 of the *Charter Schools Regulation*, AR 85/2019.
- 6.2 Provide the Superintendent with clear corporate direction.
- 6.3 Delegate, in writing, administrative authority and identify responsibility subject to provisions and restrictions in the Education Act.
- Respect the authority of the Superintendent to carry out executive action and support the Superintendent's actions which are exercised within the delegated discretionary powers of the position.
- 6.5 Demonstrate mutual respect and support, which is conveyed to the staff and the community.
- 6.6 Provide oversight of the Superintendent, including through annual evaluations of the Superintendent.
- 6.7 Develop pre-established performance expectations and appraisal tools for evaluating and overseeing the Superintendent.
- 6.8 Annual review compensation of the Superintendent.
- 6.9 Engage in succession planning

7. Charter Board Development

- 7.1 Develop a plan for Charter Board/Director development.
- 7.2 Develop an annual work plan with timelines.

- 7.3 Annually evaluate Charter Board effectiveness.
- 7.4 Engage in Board member recruitment and succession planning.
- 7.5 Appoint an individual to fulfill the role of Secretary. This individual may also be appointed as Treasurer of Board. The Board may direct the Superintendent to appoint an appropriate employee of the Society to serve in the role of Secretary.

8. Fiscal Accountability

- Appoint an individual to fulfill the role of the Treasurer. This individual may also be appointed as Secretary of the Board. The Board may direct the Superintendent to appoint an appropriate employee of the Society to serve as the Secretary.
- 8.2 Approve budget principles and establish priorities at the outset of the budget process.
- 8.3 Approve annual budget and allocation of resources to achieve desired results.
- 8.4 Approve substantive budget adjustments when necessary.
- 8.5 Monitor the fiscal management of the Society through receipt of quarterly variance analyses and year-end projections.
- 8.6 Approve the appointment of the Auditor.
- 8.7 Receive Audit Report and ensure the terms of engagement are met.
- 8.8 Approve transfer of funds to/from reserves.
- 8.9 Approve a Strategic Plan focused on developing programs and expanding student access to a girls-only school.
- 8.10 Approve annually the Ten-Year Facilities Master Plan to address student enrolment projections and to inform the Three-Year Capital Plan priorities.
- 8.11 Approve annually the Three-Year Capital Plan for submission to Alberta Education.
- 8.12 Approve compensation changes for employees/groups.
- 8.13 File the annual return for a charitable organization.
- 8.14 Provide public, timely and detailed disclosure of the expenses reimbursed to Directors and the Superintendent.
- 8.15 Explore fund development opportunities.

Selected Responsibilities

The Charter Board shall:

- 1. Acquire and dispose of land, buildings and leases.
- 2. Name campuses, areas within campuses and other Society-owned facilities.
- 3. Approve the Calgary Girls Charter School school-year calendar.
- 4. Provide for recognition of students, staff and the CGCS community.
- 5. Make a recommendation to the Minister for the dissolution of a School Council.
- 6. Approve contracts and agreements as required by the Government of Alberta.
- 7. Approve joint-use agreements with the City of Calgary and other organizations.
- 8. Appoint Honorary Council members.
- 9. Liaise with the School Council.

- 10. Approve locally developed courses.
- 11. Approve annual fees for transportation, technology and instructional resources.
- 12. Approve expense reimbursement rates.
- 13. Hear unresolved student or staff complaints of discrimination or harassment.
- 14. Approve purchases in excess of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) above the overall existing budget allocation.

Reference:

Education Act s. 11, 27, 52, 53, 54, 60, 62, 184, 185



POLICY 2 ROLE OF THE CHARTER BOARD APPENDIX A: CHARTER BOARD ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2020-2021

September

- □ Approve Policy Review Schedule
- □ Receive Report on summer work projects as appropriate
- □ Receive initial Staffing and Enrolment Report (Budget Implications) & Early Exit data
- □ Receive School Council Annual Report for the prior year

October

- □ Receive Accountability Pillar and Provincial Achievement Test Results as per the protocol
- Approve process/timelines for the refinement of the Three-Year Education Plan (Board level)
- Approve Board's Communications (Advocacy) Plan Or set COW meeting to develop Plan
- □ Review Casino Funds, Processes, Plans

November

- □ Receive Finance and Audit Committee Report
- Approve Audited Financial Statements
- □ Approve Transfers to/from Reserves
- Approve Three-Year Education Plan/Annual Education Results Report Due Nov. 30 to Minister (2021 – last year for combined 3YEP and AERR document)

December

Meeting is called if needed (Committee of the Whole)

January

- □ Receive Risk Management Report (& Insurance Review)
- □ Receive Human Resource Services Report
- □ Receive First Quarter Financial Report
- Approve Employee Total Compensation (Certificated/Non-Certificated/Management & Executive Staff)

February

- □ Receive Transportation Services Report
- □ Receive Enrolment Trends Report
- □ Receive School Fees proposal for subsequent school year

	March					
	Approve Annual School Year Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year					
	Approve any necessary adjustments to the subsequent School Year Calendar 2024-2025					
	Receive Verification of Instructional Hours Report for subsequent school year					
	Approve Locally Developed Courses (3 Year Cycle and Go Girls' Curriculum)					
	Approve Long Range Student Accommodation and Facilities Plan & Three-Year Capital Plan Priorities					
	Receive Second Quarter Financial Report					
	Receive Plant Operations & Maintenance Report (Proposal for Facility Improvements					
Ш	that are not IMR Funded)					
	that are not him to unded)					
	April					
	Receive Budget Preparation assumptions and principles (Note: establish budget					
_	priorities) for subsequent year					
	Approve Fees (e.g., Transportation, Resources & Enrichment)					
	Approve Employee Expense Reimbursement Rates					
	Review Charter Board Committees (amend, add or delete as needed) and Board Representatives (appoint Honorary Council members)					
	Representatives (appoint honorary Council members)					
	May					
	Approve Budget for subsequent school year (Note: May be delayed due to AB					
_	Government budget announcement dates)					
	Receive Verification of Instructional Hours Report for the subsequent school year					
	Submission of Instructional Hours Report by May 31 Submission of Budget to government by May 31					
	Submission of Budget to government by May 31					
June						
	Approve Charter Board Annual Work Plan					
	Approve Schedule of Meetings for 2021-2022 including Society Meetings					
	Approve Charter Board Development Plan for subsequent year					
	Approve Charter Board Committees with Terms of Reference					
	Receive Third Quarter Financial Report					
Ongoing						
	0 0					

Committee Work: Compensation, Advocacy & Communications, Governance & Policy

Committee Chairs call meetings. Please provide an annual calendar of proposed meeting dates, with date of report required to the Board by the end of August.

(Nominations is a subcommittee), Audit/Finance Committee, Technology



POLICY 2
ROLE OF THE CHARTER BOARD
APPENDIX B: BOARD SELF EVALUATION PERFORMANCE
ASSESSMENT GUIDE

CALGARY GIRLS CHARTER SCHOOL CHARTER BOARD SELF EVALUATION PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT GUIDE

SELF EVALUATION PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT GUIDE							
Role Expectation:	Evaluation Evidence	Quality Indicators					
Accountability for Student							
<u> </u>	Evaluation Evidence Foundational statements Annual goals and priorities Three-Year Education Plan process Budget Report Form Three-Year Capital Plan Facilities Master Plan Annual Education Results Report Three-Year Education Plan Reports Charter School evaluations Superintendent's evaluation Relevant correspondence Board self-evaluation questionnaire results o Board role	□ Foundational statements for the School are established which allow it to move forward to a future that continues to enhance student learning and to achieve the School's educational goals. □ Planning process and timelines allow for development with appropriate Board and stakeholder input. □ The Three-Year Education Plan identifies annual educational goals and priorities which move the School forward. □ The allocation of resources reflects an effort to ensure student achievement. □ School performance and achievement is monitored, evaluated and reported.					
1.6 Annually approve the "rolling" Three-Year Education Plan/Report for submission to Alberta Education and for distribution to the public.							

Role Expectation: Accountability to the CGCS Community

The Charter Board shall:

- 2.1 Develop and maintain a communication link to the community.
- 2.2 Make informed decisions that consider CGCS community values and represent the interests of the Society.
- 2.3 Establish processes and provide opportunity for focused CGCS community input.
- 2.4 Promote school programs, needs and desires to the CGCS community.
- 2.5 Report School outcomes to the CGCS community at least annually.
- 2.6 Develop appeal procedures and hold hearings as required by statute and/or Charter Boardpolicy.
- 2.7 Model a culture of respect and integrity.

Evaluation Evidence

- □ Communications Plan
- Briefing notes and reports
- Public meetings/focus groups/surveys
- □ Accountability Pillar
- Three-Year Education Plan/Report
- Audited Financial Statements
- □ School publications
- Appeal processes in place
- □ Press releases
- □ Media reports
- Superintendent's evaluation
- Relevant correspondence
- Board self-evaluation questionnaire results
 - o Board role
 - Community engagement

Quality Indicators

- A creative, innovative and evolving communications plan is developed and maintained.
- Decisions are based on relevant data and are representative of the interests of the Society.
- Mechanisms for CGCS community input are readily available.
- Processes are established to communicate Charter Board decisions to its constituents.
- Promotional materials are developed.
- Information is disseminated to appropriate publics.
- Appeal hearing processes are transparent and cognizant of due process.
- The Charter Board and individual Directors model a culture of respect and integrity and operate in an open, transparent fashion.

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Role Expectation Accountability to Provincial Government

The Charter Board shall:

- 3.1 Act in accordance with all statutory requirements to implement provincial and educational standards and policies.
- 3.2 Perform Charter Board functions required by governing legislation and existing Charter Board policy.
- 3.3 Ensure adherence to the Charter Mandate.

Evaluation Evidence

- Three-Year Education Plan/Report
- □ Budget Report Form
- Audited FinancialStatements
- □ Accountability Pillar
- Published academic results
- ☐ Superintendent's evaluation
- □ Charter
- Charter RenewalDocument
- □ Policy review
- □ School litigation status
- Relevant correspondence
- Board self-evaluation questionnaire results o Board role

Quality Indicators

- Statutory obligations are fully met in a timely manner.
- Legislated functions are performed in an exemplary fashion.
- All students are provided an education program consistent with the Education Act and the statutory regulations.
- Charter Board governance policies clearly specify required Board functions.
- Charter obligations are met and exceeded.

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Charter Board Handbook Manual Page 13

Role Expectation Advocacy

The Charter Board shall:

- 4.1 Promote a positive identity for the Calgary Girls Charter School.
- 4.2 Act as an advocate for the Calgary Girls Charte School and the Charter movement.
- 4.3 Identify issues for advocacy on an ongoing basis.
- 4.4 Plan for advocacy including focus, key messages, relationships and expanded opportunities.
- 4.5 Promote regular meetings and maintain timely,frank and constructive communication with locally elected officials.

Evaluation Evidence

- □ Board Work Plan
- Advocacy issues identified
- Relevant correspondence
- □ Media releases
- Meetings with MLAs, Ministers, municipal partners, neighbouring educational/public service authorities
- Active participation in provincial organization
- Board self-evaluation questionnaire results
 Board role

Quality Indicators

- Advocacy issues are identified.
- Strategies for advocacy are developed.
- The Charter Board participates in advocacy processes at the local and provincial levels.
- The Charter Board conveys key messages regularly to MLAs, municipal partners and the media.
- The Charter Board conveys key messages to its MPs when appropriate.

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Role Expectation Policy

The Charter Board shall:

- 5.1 Develop, approve and monitor the implementation of policies to guide Calgary Girls Charter School and the Charter Board.
- 5.2 Provide direction in those areas over which the Charter Board wishes to retain authority.

Evaluation Evidence

- Policy development and review
 - New policies
 - Revised policies
- □ Board motions summary
- Superintendent's evaluation
- Board self-evaluation questionnaire results
 - o Boardrole

Quality Indicators

- Established policies facilitate smooth, effective provision of quality educational services for the School.
- Policy impact isregularly monitored to determine if policy is producing the desired results.
- Charter Board governance policies clearly specify required Board, Committee and Director functions and implementation standards.
- The Superintendent's roles andresponsibilities are clearly outlined in Charter Board policy.

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Charter School

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Role Expectation Charter Board/Superintendent Relations

The Charter Board shall:

- 6.1 Select the Superintendent.
- 6.2 Provide the Superintendent with clear corporate direction.
- 6.3 Delegate, in writing, administrative authority and identify responsibility subject to provisions and restrictions in the Education Act.
- 6.4 Respect the authority of the Superintendent to carry out executive action and support the Superintendent's actions which are exercised within the delegated discretionary powers of the position.
- 6.5 Demonstrate mutual respect and support, which is conveyed to the staff and the community.
- 6.6 Annually evaluate the Superintendent.
- 6.7 Annually review compensation of the Superintendent.

Evaluation Evidence

- Hiring and reappointment process
- □ Succession planning
- □ Board motions summary
- □ Policy review
- □ Superintendent's evaluation
- Board self-evaluation questionnaire results
 - Board role
 - Board/
 Superintendent relations

Quality Indicators

The Charter Board has the responsibility for Superintendent selection subject to Minister's statutory authority.

 Provision is made for Superintendent succession planning as required.

 Clear corporate direction is provided to the Superintendent.

- The Superintendent has been delegated responsibility for all executive functions together with commensurate authority.
- The Superintendent is supported in actions exercised within the delegated discretionary powers of the position.
- The Chief Executive
 Officer role of the
 Superintendent is
 respected and conveyed
 to the staff and the
 community.
- The Superintendent is evaluated annually, fairly and thoroughly in relation to specific roles and responsibilities and Charter Board direction.
- The Superintendent's compensation package is reviewed annually with due consideration for fairness, equity and economic conditions.

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Charter Board Development

Role Expectation

The Charter Board shall:

- 7.1 Develop a plan for Charter Board/Director development.
- 7.2 Develop an annual work plan with timelines.
- 7.3 Annually evaluate Charter Board effectiveness.

Evaluation Evidence

- □ Board Work Plan
- Board Three-Year
 Education planning
 sessions
- □ Board workshops
- Conference/Activity Reports
- Board self-evaluation questionnaire results
 - Board role
 - Interpersonal working relationships

Quality Indicators

- A yearly plan for Charter Board/Director development is developed.
- Individual Directors participate in conferences and other activities to further Charter Board and Director effectiveness.
- Planning sessions and workshops are scheduled to enhance Board effectiveness.
- An annual work plan is developed.
- Interactions amongst Directors demonstrate respect, understanding and integrity.
- A regular Charter Board self-evaluation, which defines a positive path forward, is completed.

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Role Expectation

Fiscal Accountability

The Charter Board shall:

- 8.1 Approve budget assumptions and establish priorities at the outset of the budget process.
- 8.2 Approve annual budget and allocation of resources to achieve desired results.
- 8.3 Approve substantive budget adjustmentswhen necessary.
- 8.4 Monitor the fiscal management of theSociety through receipt of quarterly variance analyses and year-end projections.
- 8.5 Approve theappointment of the Auditor.
- 8.6 Receive Audit Reportand ensure the terms of engagement are met.
- 8.7 Approve transfer offunds to/from reserves.
- 8.8 Approve a StrategicPlan focused on developing programs and expanding student access to agirls-only school.
- 8.9 Approve annually the Ten-Year Facilities MasterPlan to address student enrolment projections and to inform the Three-Year Capital Plan priorities.
- 8.10 Approve annually the Three-Year Capital Planfor submission to Alberta Education.
- 8.11 Approve compensation changes for employees/groups.
- 8.12 File the annual return fora charitable organization.
- 8.13 Provide public, timelyand detailed disclosure of the expenses reimbursed to Directors and the Superintendent.

Evaluation Evidence

- □ Budget process
- □ Budget Report Form
- Quarterly Financial Reports
- Quarterly Year-End Projections
- □ External Audit Report
- ☐ Audited Financial Statements
- ☐ Annual Education Results Report
- □ Strategic Plan
- ☐ Three Year CapitalPlan
- ☐ Ten YearFacilities
 Master Plan
- □ Annual Charitable Status Return
- □ Board Work Plan
- □ Relevant correspondence
- ☐ Superintendent's evaluation
- ☐ Board self-evaluation questionnaire results
 - o Board role

Quality Indicators

- Budget assumptions are clearly understood by the Charter Board.
- Needs are determinedand prioritized.
- The approved budget clearly reflects the Charter Board's priorities.
- $\ \square$ An auditor is appointed.
- Quality indicators for financial operations are established by theCharter Board and confirmed by internal and/or external audits.
- Resources are used efficiently andeffectively.
- Quarterly variance analyses and year-end projections are received.
- A creative, innovative Strategic Plan guides program development and access expansion forgirls.
- Capital and facility plans allow for suitablestudent and program accommodation in the short-term and the longterm.
- Successful completionand execution ofcompensation changes for employees/groups occurs.
- Successful completion and submission of Annual Charitable Status Returnis executed.
- Enhanced transparency and accountability is demonstrated in thepublic disclosure of travel and expenses.