

## **3 Governance Process**

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### **3.3 Board Linkage**

#### **Policy**

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**The Board of Education will be committed to systematic contact with its electors in order to discern the common good.**

1. The board's obligation to engage in systematic contact with its electors involves three levels.
  - a) Moral Obligation  
Board members are trustees for the electors. They fulfill the trust of governance. In order to represent the diversity within the population, they are obliged to exercise linkage with the electors.
  - b) Research Based Obligation  
The board is committed to gather and use evidence of elector's needs and interests.
  - c) Corporate Based Obligation  
Board members are committed to engage in direct contact with electors. There are several models of linkage that the board may employ:
    - special presentations at board meetings
    - annual meeting of electors
    - public information meetings
    - public forums
    - focus groups
    - brainstorming teams
    - round table discussion
2. Each time the board seeks involvement with electors it is obliged to follow a consistent process of linkage by:
  - stating the subject open for discussion
  - defining the issue(s)
  - identifying who is to be involved in the linkage
  - determining the model of engagement
  - determining the information required for knowledgeable interaction
  - determining the follow-up process for reporting back to participants

#### **Board Approved**

November 13, 1996

#### **Amended**

June 21, 2000  
April 28, 2008

#### **Reviewed**

October 16, 2023