

<p>Kelsey School Division Box 4700 The Pas, MB R9A 1R4</p> <p>Phone: 623-6421</p>	<p>Code : BBFB</p>
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TRUSTEE PRACTICES

In working to make our mission statement a reality, the Board of Trustees accepts the following principles to guide our interactions with various people in our work as trustees:

1. While charged with the ultimate responsibility for the operation of the School Division, we work in equal partnership with the Senior Administration Team.
2. While we value diverse points of view, we honour the collective voice of the Board.
3. While elected to represent our respective wards, it is our duty to consider the needs of the whole School Division in every decision.

We agree on the following principles for how individual trustees conduct their working relationship with people throughout the School Division:

- A. In relating to the Board, as individual trustees we will:
 1. Support the majority decisions of the Board by providing to those who ask the rationale for such decisions;
 2. Retain the right to a dissenting opinion and to seek changes to decisions of the Board through ethical and constructive channels;
 3. Respect the confidentiality concerning privileged information.
- B. In relating to the Superintendent and members of the Senior Administration, we as individual trustees will:
 1. Offer information, ideas or suggestions without expressing specific expectations for action;
 2. Have the right to make reasonable requests for information from existing reports, and about policies, programs and services;
 3. Provide information about repeated commentary from the community regarding employee performance without becoming involved in the process of supervision;
 4. Recognize that most direction to Senior Administration will come through collective Board decisions.
- C. In relating to School Administration and members of school staffs, we as individual trustees will:

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1. Generally relate information, ideas or suggestions through Senior Administration Team members and not contact school staff directly;
 2. Exercise caution in discussions with staff to avoid presenting individual ideas or requests as expectations for action;
 3. Direct complaints through proper channels: teacher, principal, Senior Administration, and Board, recognizing that it is not the role of an individual trustee to solve a complaint but to provide information and to make sure the individual knows the process;
 4. Avoid discussing negotiation issues when away from the negotiations table, except during meetings of negotiation committees and in camera sessions of the Board.
- D. In relating to Parent Councils, parents, and the community, we as individual trustees will:
1. Agree that the Chair of the Board and/or the Superintendent is/are the official spokesperson(s) for the Board on divisional issues, especially to the media. As individuals, trustees can respond to straightforward questions on matters related to policies, programs, and services;
 2. Direct complaints through proper channels;
 3. Ensure that written communication from an individual trustee that may be of a public nature is vetted by the Board.