



# **GET ON BOARD: Become a Voice for Saugerties**

Partially adapted from NYSSBA  
Saugerties Board of Education

SAUGERTIES  
CENTRAL  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT



# The Roles of Board Members

- **Be forward-thinking**
- **Be a representative of the entire community**
- **Be a steward of the District's resources**
  - Ensure resource allocation is linked to District goals
- **Be a part of the leadership team**
  - Hire the Superintendent
  - Work to understand the complexity of educational issues
  - Set District goals
- **Be an advocate for public education**
  - Have a commitment to do what is right for children, even in the face of opposition
  - Inspire public confidence
  - Stay current on educational issues



# School Board Governance

## Policy-Making

- Provide the means by which a school board leads and governs its District
- Ensure the District performs its stated mission and operates in an effective, uniform manner
- Establish the standards and objectives to be reached by the District
- Form the rules and bylaws for governance to which the Board, students, and administrators are held accountable

*Source: School Law 34th Edition*



# Leadership Responsibilities



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## Roles of the Board & Superintendent

The Board focuses on establishing policies, which are statements of philosophy and purpose that reflect the community's values.

The Superintendent focuses on actualizing the Board's policies to provide the best educational opportunities, and to achieve optimal educational outcomes for the children of the community.

The Superintendent is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the school district and is responsible to the Board.



## Important Steps to Take

- Get to know your Superintendent
- Engage in conversation using established communication channels
- Set goals as a Board with the Superintendent
- Use the experience and expertise of the educators to inform your decision-making
- Work to understand all the elements of the issues
- Work together as a team with the rest of the Board and the Superintendent
- Understand that the “no surprise rule” is a two-way street
- Understand and use online social media platforms judiciously



## Board Responsibilities

- Set the District's direction through shared decision-making, visioning, goal identification, and a common strategy
- Work with the Superintendent to ensure that the policies, goals, processes, and resources are aligned
- Work with the Superintendent to evaluate the effectiveness of programs and initiatives through the use of data, feedback, and deliberation
- Continuously improve by reinforcing the positive and correcting the negative



## Routine Duties

- **Attend and participate in Board meetings**
  - Read the Board packet ahead of time
  - Familiarize yourself with important issues
  - Pose questions to Superintendent in advance
- **Attend additional Board Work Sessions as scheduled**
  - Participate on subcommittees
  - Attend training sessions
- **Spend time in the District**
  - Attend school events
  - Coordinate visits with the Superintendent
- **Periodically assess you and your Board's effectiveness**
  - How do you conduct meetings, interact, decide, maintain confidence, etc





# Candidate Meet & Greet

March 30, 2022

5:30 PM

High School Library

(in-person meeting with  
current Board members)

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