



Policy No. 113

ROLE OF THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON

POLICY STATEMENT

The Board of Education of School District 87 (Stikine) shall elect one of its members to serve as Board Chairperson during its inaugural meeting and annually thereafter at a regular meeting. The Chairperson serves at the discretion of the Board and holds no individual authority to act unilaterally. The Chairperson's authority is derived entirely from corporate board decisions and established policy. The Chairperson shall not make independent decisions outside of existing policy framework, nor directly supervise, manage, or direct district staff.

GUIDING LEGISLATION/REGULATIONS

- *School Act, Sections 65, 67, 69, 70, 85*

REGULATION

The Board delegates and assigns to the Chairperson the following powers and duties:

1. Meeting Leadership and Decorum

- a. Collaborate regularly with the Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer to plan, prepare, and finalize agendas and supporting materials prior to regular, in-camera, and special board meetings.
- b. Chair all public and closed board meetings, ensuring compliance with the *School Act*, board bylaws, policies, and procedures.
- c. Uphold proper conduct, debate decorum, and focus among trustees, ensuring discussions remain strictly relevant to the topic.
- d. Ensure agenda items are clearly articulated, and preside with firmness, courtesy, tact, and impartiality so all members have an equitable opportunity to speak.
- e. Rule on all questions of order and procedure, subject to an appeal to the full board.
- f. Determine the outcome of each motion through a formal show of hands.

2. Superintendent Relations and District Oversight

- a. Relay significant operational or administrative concerns raised by trustees, staff, parents, or students directly to the Superintendent.
- b. Maintain regular contact with the Superintendent to remain fully informed of current district issues and events.
- c. Oversee the Superintendent contract on behalf of the board, promptly bringing any relevant matters forward for board review.

3. Public Representation and Advocacy

- a. Act as the primary spokesperson for the board, communicating positions that strictly align with board-approved motions and policies.
- b. Represent the board (or designate an alternate) at official events, government meetings, or hearings.
- c. Limit public and official comments strictly to positions established by board motions, bringing unresolved or new issues back to the corporate board for direction.
- d. Share all insights and updates from external government or organization meetings with the full board.

4. Board Governance & Internal Management

- a. Bring all matters requiring a collective, corporate board decision to the full table.
- b. Appoint trustees to serve on various board committees and/or functions.
- c. Ensure the board participates in regular, structured assessments of its own governance effectiveness.
- d. Address inappropriate behaviour or policy breaches on the part of any trustee.
- e. Assist with the design and delivery of the orientation program for newly elected trustees.

5. Legal Authority

- a. Act as an official signing officer for the school district.