

BELLINGHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 501

1000

BOARD POLICY

LEGAL STATUS AND OPERATION

Legal Status

The board of directors of the Bellingham School District is the corporate entity established by the state of Washington to plan and direct all aspects of the district's operations to the end that students shall have ample opportunity to achieve their individual and collective learning needs.

The policies of the board define the organization of the board and the manner of conducting its official business. The board's operating policies are those that the board adopts from time to time to facilitate the performance of its responsibilities.

Organization

The corporate name of this school district is Bellingham School District No. 501, Whatcom County, State of Washington. The district is classified as a first-class district and is operated in accordance with the laws and regulations pertaining to first-class districts.

In order to achieve its primary goal of providing each child with the necessary skills and attitudes, commensurate with his/her ability, to become effective citizens, the board shall exercise the full authority granted to it by the laws of the state. Its legal powers, duties and responsibilities are derived from state statute and regulation. Sources such as the school code (Title 28A RCW), attorney general's opinions and regulations of the state board of education (Title 180 WAC) and the state superintendent of public instruction (Title 392 WAC) delineate the legal powers, duties and responsibilities of the board.

Number Of Members And Terms Of Office

The board shall consist of five members, elected by ballot by the registered voters of the district. Except as otherwise provided by law, board members shall hold office for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. Terms of board members shall be staggered as provided by law.

Newly-elected directors shall take office at the first official meeting of the board of directors after the election results have been certified by the county auditor. Prior to beginning their term, directors shall take and subscribe to an oath of office.

Cross References: Board Policy 1111 Oath of office

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Legal References:	RCW 28A.150.230	Basic Education Act of 1977
	RCW 28A.315.035	Organization of school districts
	RCW 28A.343.300	Director — Elections — Terms — Numbers
	RCW 28A.343.320	Directors — Declaration of candidacy
	RCW 28A.343.330	Directors — Ballots — Form
	RCW 28A.320.010	Corporate powers
	RCW 28A.320.020	Liability for debts and judgments
	RCW 28A.320.040	Directors — Bylaws
	RCW 28A.343.360	Directors — Oath of Office
	RCW 29A.20.030	Local officers, beginning of terms – Organization of district boards of directors
	RCW 29A.20.040	Local elected officials, commencement of term and office

Adopted: 05/10/1979
Revised: 10/11/2007