

Policy 201

Legal Status of the School Board



HEARTLAND LAKES COMMUNITY SCHOOL EXISTS TO EMPOWER SCHOLARS TO:
 BRAVELY LIVE THEIR TRUTH,
 TO BECOME WISE STEWARDS OF THE LAND AND RESOURCES
 AND TO IGNITE LASTING CURIOSITY THAT LEADS TO POSITIVE CHANGE IN THEIR SCHOOL, THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND THEMSELVES.

Adoption:	January 22, 2024
Revision History	
Last Board Review: January 22, 2024	
Next Board Review: January 2027	
Review Frequency: Every 3 Years (per Policy 208)	

I. PURPOSE

The care, management, and control of Heartland Lakes Community School (HLCS) is vested by statutory and constitutional authority in the School Board. The School Board shall carry out the mission of the school district with diligence, prudence, and dedication to the ideals of providing the finest public education. The purpose of this policy is to define the authority, duties, and powers of the School Board in carrying out its mission.

II. DEFINITIONS

“School Board” means the governing body of the school district.

III. POLICY STATEMENT

- A. The School Board is the governing body of the school district. As such, the School Board has responsibility for the care, management, and control over schools in the school district.
- B. Generally, elected members of the School Board have binding authority only when acting as a School Board legally in session, except where specific authority is provided to School Board members or officers individually. Generally, the School Board is not bound by an action or statement on the part of an individual School Board member unless the action is specifically directed or authorized by the School Board.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

- A.** The membership of the School Board consists of a maximum of nine (9) elected directors but no less than five (5). Refer to the HLCS Bylaws, Article V.
- B.** The Director is an ex-officio member.
- C.** A majority of voting members constitutes a quorum. The act of the majority of a quorum is the act of the School Board.

V. POWERS AND DUTIES

- A.** The School Board has powers and duties specified by statute. The School Board's authority includes implied powers in addition to specific powers granted by the legislature.
- B.** The School Board exercises administrative functions. It also has certain powers of a legislative character and other powers of a quasi-judicial character.
- C.** The School Board shall supervise and manage all of the school district; adopt rules for their organization, government, and instruction; oversee curriculum adoption and adherence; and make and authorize contracts.
- D.** The School Board shall have the general charge of the business of the school district, its facilities and property, and of the interest of HLCS.
- E.** The School Board, among other duties, shall perform the following in accordance with applicable law:
 - 1.** conduct the business of the schools and pay indebtedness and proper expenses;
 - 2.** employ and contract with necessary qualified teachers and discharge the same for cause;
 - 3.** provide services to promote the health of its pupils;
 - 4.** provide school buildings and needed buildings;
 - 5.** purchase, sell, and exchange school district property and equipment as deemed necessary by the school board for school purposes (see HLCS Policy 802 – Disposition of Obsolete Equipment and Materials);
 - 6.** provide for payment of claims against the school district, and prosecute and defend actions by or against the school district, in all proper cases;

7. employ and discharge necessary employees and contract for other services;
 8. provide for transportation of pupils to and from school, as governed by statute; and
 9. procure insurance against liability of the school district, its officers, and employees.
- F. The School Board, at its discretion, may perform the following:
1. furnish school lunches for pupils and teachers on such terms as the School Board determines (See HLCS Policy 533 – Wellness);
 2. lease rooms or buildings for school purposes;
 3. authorize the use of school facilities for community purposes that will not interfere with their use for school purposes (See HLCS Policy 808 – Facility Use Procedures);
 4. authorize co curricular and extracurricular activities; and
 5. receive, for the benefit of the school district, bequests, donations, or gifts for any proper purpose.

Note: The applicability and enforceability of this policy 201 is limited to, and qualified by, Minnesota or Federal law that, at the time any such circumstance within the scope of the policy arises, may be contrary to some aspect or all of the policy.