Subject: Role of the Board of Directors and the Role of the Superintendent

Effective Date: TBD Upon Board Approval

Approved By: Board of Directors

Policy: 7004.1

INTRODUCTION

Recognizing that the Vista Springs Charter School is governed by its Board of Directors, not by individual board members, and the relationship between the Board and the School's Superintendent and his/her Administration is crucial to the effective operation of the School, this policy clarifies the Board's and the Superintendent's primary roles in governing and operating the School.

The Board's primary roles include:

1. Selection and timely annual evaluation of the Superintendent
2. Adopting a fiscally responsible budget based on the School's vision and goals, and regularly monitoring the fiscal health of the School.
3. Maintaining accountability for student learning by monitoring student progress through regular reports by the Superintendent or designee.
4. Adopting, evaluating and updating School policies consistent with the law and the School's mission.
5. Approval of the School calendar
6. Consulting with the Superintendent on his or her recommendations and acting upon them.
7. Strategic Planning
8. Exercising control of the School in accordance with the State and Federal Constitution, and applicable laws and regulations.
9. Participation in the adopted complaint procedures contained in School policy
10. Providing adequate housing, equipment, supplies and other facilities for the operation of the School.

Hearing communications, written and/or oral, from citizens and organizations on matters of administration, finance, organization, policy and program.

The Superintendent's primary roles include:

1. Daily operation of the School in accordance with adopted Board policies and annual budget limitations.
2. Promoting the success of all students and supporting the efforts of the Board to keep the School focused on learning and achievement.
3. Valuing, advocating and supporting the School and all stakeholders.
4. Recognizing and respecting the differences of perspective and style on the Board and among staff, students, parents and the community and ensuring that the diverse range of views inform Board decisions.
5. Acting with dignity, treating everyone with civility and respect, and understanding the implications of demeanor and behavior.
6. Working with the Board as a "governance team" and assuring collective responsibility for building a unity of purpose, communicating a common vision and creating a positive organizational culture.
7. Understanding the distinction between Board and staff roles, and respecting the role of the Board as the representative of the community.
8. Understanding that authority rests with the Board as a whole; providing guidance to the Board to assist in decision-making; and providing leadership based on the direction of the Board as a whole.
9. Communicating openly with trust and integrity including providing all members of the Board with equal access to information, and recognizing the importance of both responsive and anticipatory communications.
10. Accepting leadership responsibility and accountability for implementing the vision, goals and policies of the School.
11. Assuring the School's full compliance with the State and Federal Constitution and applicable laws and regulations.

Each individual Board member shall:

1. Keep learning and achievement for all students as the primary focus.
2. Recognize and respect differences of perspective and style on the Board and among staff, students, parents and the community.
3. Act with dignity and understand the implications of demeanor and behavior.

4. Keep confidential matters confidential.

5. Participate in professional development and commit the time and energy necessary to be an informed and effective leader.
6. Understand the distinctions between Board and Administration roles, and refrain from performing management functions that are the responsibility of the Superintendent and staff.
7. Comply with legal responsibilities related to conflicts of interest
8. Understand that authority rests with the Board as a whole and not with individuals.