



FARMINGTON

AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Candidate Information Session

Thank you for your interest in
the Farmington School Board!

Agenda

- Introductions
- About Farmington Area Public Schools
- Farmington Board of Education
- Introduction to School Boards
- 2022 Election Information
- Ideas to Deepen Your Understanding



About Farmington Area Public Schools

- ISD 192 includes all of the City of Farmington, a portion of Lakeville, and five surrounding townships; total district population exceeds 36,000
- Student population is about 7,000 and expected to be stable the next 5 years
- 5 elementary schools, 2 middle schools, 1 high school
- Largest employer in Farmington – employs 900 staff with about 490 licensed teachers
- Strategic framework drives district purpose, goals, and decision-making
- Profile of a lifelong learner includes 3 objectives that are central to our work



ISD 192 Board of Education

The School Board is comprised of:

- Six directors and one ex-officio non-voting member, the Superintendent
- Terms are 4 years, with 3 seats on the ballot during the November General Election in even years
- All Farmington School Board members are “at-large” and represent the entire community
- A successful school board must function as a team with clear strategies and goals (each member is 1 of a Board team of 6 members)



Board Meetings

Business Meetings and Workshops (2 to 4 hours per meeting):

- Generally, the board holds one business meeting and one workshop each month (with some exceptions due to holidays or state statute)

Committee Meetings (1 to 2 hrs per meeting):

- Each member serves on at least one, but usually two committees that meet as arranged

Outside Organizations:

- Directors may also be appointed to represent the board with other district or professional organizations with their own meeting times and cadences



Board Member Training and Commitment

- Complete board-required training (orientation, mentor, and whole board training)
- Complete MN State-mandated training (MSBA I & II) within 6 months of being sworn in
- Prepare for board meetings, be present and on time
- Model effective leadership and comply with all statutes and policies
- Serve on at least one board committee
- Attend board events
- Attend district and community events



What is a School Board?

A body of locally elected individuals who represent the communities they serve.

- Power and authority are granted to school boards by the state.
- The board only has authority when acting **as a whole**. Individual board members have no authority in and of themselves.
- Purpose is to ensure effective, efficient, and equitable delivery of high-quality education to all the school district's students through adoption of policy.



Fundamental Role: To Govern

- School boards are most effective when focused on “the big picture”
- Core responsibilities:



Policy: Ensure the right policies are in place, are current and consistent with the law, and are followed consistently



Budget: Ensure schools are adequately funded and that financial resources are appropriated and used responsibly



Superintendent: Hire, direct, and evaluate the performance of the superintendent who manages the day-to-day operations of the district

Governance Responsibilities

School board members work to:

- Develop a vision and establish priorities for the district
- Set goals and align resources to those goals
- Monitor outcomes and progress, most notably for student achievement
- Set school district policy
- Approve and oversee the budget, levy taxes as allowed
- Approve collectively-bargained employee contracts
- Advocate district and student needs to lawmakers
- Evaluate the superintendent (CEO) of the district
- Communicate and collaborate with public



Limitations

School boards **do not**:

- Make personnel decisions, other than about the superintendent
- Make management or operational decisions, other than through the established policy-making process



Individual school board members **do not**:

- Speak for the board or on behalf of the district, except to share on matters that have already been approved by the board
- Direct work of district staff, other than the superintendent by board action

Administration Role: To Manage

Administration has the authority of day-to-day management with responsibilities for:

- Resource management: financial, human, and physical
- Instructional leadership
- Performance management and professional development
- Continuous improvement
- Procedures and practices aligned with district policy
- Staff, parent and community relations



Code of Ethics and Standards for School Board Leadership

- Expectations are outlined in [Policy 209 - School Board Code of Ethics](#)
- The MN School Boards Association (MSBA) has five Standards for School Board Leadership:
 - Conduct and Ethics
 - Vision
 - Structure
 - Accountability
 - Advocacy and Communication



What Qualities Make a Good Board Member?

- Passionate about learner-centered culture, achievement, and aspirations
- Motivated by the best interests of **each** learner
- Able (and willing) to make difficult decisions and focus on problem-solving
- An effective communicator who is willing to listen
- Willing and able to spend time and energy on school board business
- Committed to governance and respecting the school district's chain of command
- Collaborative and able to function as a member of a team
- Willing to support the decision of the board publicly and privately



How to Become a Candidate

- File an “Affidavit of Candidacy” at Farmington High School
 - Filing period is August 2-16, 2022
 - District office is open 7:30 am to 3:00 pm Monday through Thursday, and Tuesday, August 16th from 7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
 - Filing fee is \$2.00
- You will receive a packet of information regarding campaign regulations and other documents to help you connect with voters
- General election will be held Tuesday, November 8, 2022
- Terms begin January 2, 2023
- Visit the District’s [Election Info - Farmington Area Public Schools](#) page for more information

Eligibility Requirements

- At least 21 years old
- Eligible voter
- Resident of the school district for at least 30 days prior to election
- Must not be a convicted felon whose civil rights have not been restored
- Must not earn more than \$20,000 per fiscal year as a district employee
- More information on filing and reporting requirements here: [Minnesota Secretary Of State - Become a Candidate](#)

Campaign Financing

- Read through the Secretary of State's Campaign Finance Manual
- If you receive or spend more than \$750, you must file your finance report within 14 days
- Additional reports are due 10 days before the election
- All candidates must file a final financial report within 30 days of Election Day

Deepen Your Understanding

- Access the district's [About District 192 - Farmington Area Public Schools](#) webpage
- Check out the district's [We are Farmington!](#) and [A New Design for Education](#) YouTube videos
- Review the district's [Strategic Framework Community Companion Guide](#)
- Review the district's [School Board Member Handbook](#)
- Attend school board meetings
- Review past school board meetings: [District192 - YouTube](#)
- Check out the [Running for School Board – Minnesota School Boards Association](#) resources

What questions do you have?



Thank you for attending this session
and good luck in the upcoming election!