

As trustees of the Board of Education of Traverse City Area Public Schools, we accept the high honor and trust that has been placed in us to ensure that each child of this district receives the best education available. To that end, we hereby commit to the following standards for effective, responsible board governance. We will:

1. Hold the school district accountable for meeting student learning expectations by evaluating the superintendent on clear and focused expectations.
 - Maintain a strategic plan for the district and clearly define success and accountability for the Board, the staff, and students.
 - Focus on the policy work of the Board and monitor progress on the indicators of success in our strategic plan, leaving the day-to-day operation of the district to the superintendent and staff.
2. Set and communicate high expectations for student learning with clear goals and plans for meeting those expectations.
 - Install the Blueprint System of Practice, adjusting for compliance with Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP), as the framework to provide high quality teaching and learning.
3. Commit to a continuous improvement plan regarding student achievement at each school and throughout the district.
 - Model continuous learning in our roles as members of the governance team.
4. Provide responsible school district governance by conducting board and district business in a fair, respectful, civil, constructive, and responsible manner.
 - Base our decisions upon available facts, vote our convictions, avoid bias, and uphold and support the decisions of the majority of the board once a decision is made.
 - Maintain the confidentiality of privileged information including that shared in closed sessions of the board.
 - Uphold all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.
5. Engage the local community and represent the values and expectations the community holds for its schools.
 - Be actively engaged with our constituents.
 - Refer constituent complaints and concerns to the appropriate person within the district chain of command.
6. Model responsible school district governance by working as an effective and collaborative team.
 - Respect the leadership roles of the Board and superintendent.
 - Recognize that authority rests only with majority decisions of the Board and will make no independent commitments or take any independent actions that may compromise the Board as a whole.
 - Maintain fidelity to these commitments and hold ourselves and fellow Board members accountable should any one of us fail to live up to these commitments.
7. Create districtwide conditions for student and staff success.
 - Anchor Board work in a culture of collective responsibility that is collegial, collaborative, and professional.²
 - Ensure the district is grounded in a safe, orderly and respectful environment for students.
 - Understand that we have a special moral and ethical imperative to serve each student and that we will equitably allocate resources based on student need.
 - Recognize and work to meet students' academic and non-academic needs in order to ensure they are ready to learn.

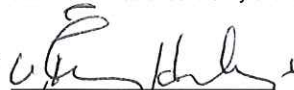
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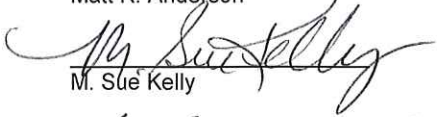
Matt R. Anderson



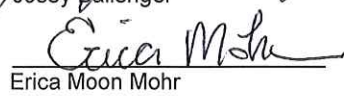
Josey Ballenger



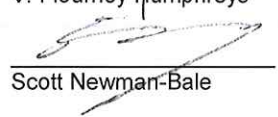
V. Flournoy Humphreys



M. Sue Kelly



Erica Moon Mohr



Scott Newman-Bale



Andrew R. Raymond

¹ Alsbury, T. L., & Gore, P. (2015). *Improving School Board Effectiveness: A Balanced Governance Approach*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Education Press.
² Chandler, G., & Frank, J. (2015). *The Blueprint for Strategic Reconfiguration*. Marshall, MI: Calhoun ISD.