

**MEDFORD AREA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY**

DATE ADOPTED: December 17, 2009 **FILE SECTOR:** RURAL VIRTUAL ACADEMY
DATE REVISED: May 19, 2016 **POLICY TITLE:** GOVERNANCE BOARD
DATE REVISED: May 17, 2018 **POWERS AND DUTIES**
DATE REVISED: February 21, 2022
DATE REVISED: December 19, 2022

The Rural Virtual Academy (RVA) Governance Board is contractually empowered under the charter and authorization of the Medford Area Public School District (MAPSD) to determine the curriculum, content, staffing organization, calendar, budget, advisories and general operations of the RVA.

The RVA Board shall be composed of both voting and non-voting members. The Board shall be represented by nine voting delegates and one non-voting delegate from each of the RVA consortium invested member districts, without maximum limit.

Selection:

Voting Delegates:

The selection of the voting members shall be determined in the following manner:

Three voting seats are perpetually held by the following delegates:

- Parent Advisory Council President
- RVA Teacher (as appointed by RVA Administration)
- Authorized Member (as appointed by Authorizing School District)

The six remaining voting seats will be equitably and perpetually distributed between invested consortium districts by individual district enrollment size. There are three enrollment categories defined as:

- Invested Small Districts (2 voting seats)
- Invested Medium Districts (2 voting seats)
- Invested Large Districts (2 voting seats)

Annually, prior to the RVA Board's regular May/June meeting, all invested member districts will have their total district enrollment updated for purposes of establishing the equitable disbursement of invested districts across voting categories. The most recently published Department of Public Instruction pupil count data will be used to determine invested member district enrollment. Once the enrollment totals have been determined, invested district enrollment will be sorted from low to high. Divisions will be then established by dividing the total number of invested districts into equitable thirds based on enrollment. If the total number of invested districts can not be divided into three equal categories, the Invested Small Districts will receive one extra member. If there are two extra districts, they will be added to the Invested Small and Invested Medium District categories.

Each Invested category will have two voting member districts. Invested member districts reserve the right to select or appoint specific delegates to fill their voting seat on the Board. Voting delegates on the Board must not be school district administrators.

Board reorganization, including the selection of voting member districts, will be determined annually at the regular May/June RVA Board meeting through the following process:

- Invested member districts, including non-voting delegates, will be divided into groups based on categorical district enrollment size.
- Through consensus, each invested group will submit recommended districts to the full Board for consideration and approval.
- Upon Board approval of districts, invested member school administrators from selected member districts must appoint a delegate to fill the voting member seat prior the next Board meeting.

Voting delegates are expected to discuss, interject, make and second motions, and vote on all agenda items up for consideration. Voting members may abstain from voting on any particular item personally deemed to be a conflict of interest.

Non-Voting Delegates:

Non-voting delegates to the Board are designated by the district administrator of each invested member district. Non-voting members can be school administrators. Non-voting members on the Board may discuss, interject, make and second motions for consideration to the Board.

RVA Board President:

The RVA Board President must be representative of one of the six invested member district delegates. The RVA Board President may not hold a perpetual seat on the Board. The RVA Board President must be appointed and filled by a delegate at the next regular Board meeting following the selection of invested member districts. The RVA Board President should assist in the setting of Board agendas and may elect to preside over Board meetings or appoint the RVA Administrator to Chair Board meetings.

RVA Administrator:

The RVA Administrator is an ex-officio member of the Board. The RVA Administrator shall be allowed to sit with the Board and participate in discussions of agenda items, but shall not be allowed to vote on any matter coming before the Board. If the RVA Administrator also serves as the RVA Teacher, then the member is allowed Board participation and one vote.

Terms:

Terms of each voting member district and other delegates, with exception to the Authorizing District, will be limited to two years in length. Member districts and other delegates can be appointed to serve consecutive two year terms.

Invested Small and Invested Medium voting member district delegates will serve on the Board through odd years. Invested Large voting member district delegates will serve through even years.

- May 2021: Appoint new Invested Small & Invested Medium member districts
- May 2022: Appoint new Invested Large member district, PAC President, and RVA Teacher
- May 2023: Appoint new Invested Small & Invested Medium member districts
- May 2024: Appoint new Invested Large member district, PAC President, and RVA Teacher
- (continues...)

Voting member delegates may request early termination of their voting seat at the regular May/June Board meeting. Upon notification of early termination to the Board, the delegates will be accepted. The delegate's seat will be refilled by appointment of the invested member district prior to the next Board meeting.

Committees:

The RVA Board reserves the right to establish standing or special committees and councils. At present, two councils, the Parent Advisory Council and Administrative Advisory Council, report to and act in consultation with the Board.

Compensation:

The RVA Board President will receive \$125 per Board meeting. All other voting delegates will receive \$100 per board meeting, virtually or in-person. Compensation is as permitted by invested member district local school board policy.

All voting members who attend RVA Board meetings in-person will be allowed to submit for mileage reimbursement at the rate determined by the RVA's authorizing school district as permitted by invested member district local school board policy.

Non-voting administrators on the Board receive no compensation or mileage reimbursement for attending Board meetings.

Time served on established committees or councils by Board members are not eligible for compensation or mileage reimbursement.

Board Powers:

The RVA Governance Board maintains autonomous decision-making authority over the RVA, in accordance with the charter to perform specific functions including but not limited to:

- Provide input, approve and monitor curriculum designed by or recommended by RVA staff and administration.
- Approve and monitor the annual budget prepared by the RVA Administrator.
- Provide vision and guidance to the school so it retains its uniqueness in meeting the individual academic, social-emotional and physical needs of its students.
- Approve the RVA school calendar.
- Recommend staff for contract approval by MAPSD Board of Education (BOE).
- Establish criteria for admission to the RVA consistent with the contract and charter school laws.
- Propose modifications to the contract as appropriate.
- Communicate any concerns regarding performance of RVA staff to the RVA administrator and/or MAPSD's BOE as appropriate.
- Serve as the primary link between the RVA and the community, articulating the RVA's mission, accomplishments and goals to the public, advocating for the RVA and its students and garnering support from members of the community.
- Plan, coordinate, approve of and carry out programs to raise money and other resources to assist in accomplishing the mission of the RVA.
- Ensure that the RVA is effective in achieving its mission and efficient in using its resources by evaluating the success of the Governance Board and its performance in fulfilling its responsibilities.

Should the RVA operate autonomously under the direction of the authorizing body of MAPSD, or another school district, without the aid of consortium partnerships, an appointed board will be determined by the authorizing district and be comprised of a minimum of four public representatives, including RVA parents/guardians and the RVA Teacher.

CROSS REFERENCE:

LEGAL REFERENCE: Wis. Stat. 118.40(1m)(b)(6)