LEGAL STATUS AND OPERATION

Legal Status

The board of directors of the Tacoma School District No. 10 is the corporate entity established by the state of Washington to plan and direct all aspects of the district's operations to the end that students shall have ample opportunity to achieve their individual and collective learning needs.

The policies of the board define the organization of the board and the manner of conducting its official business. The board's operating policies are those that the board adopts from time to time to facilitate the performance of its responsibilities. Policies shall continue from year to year and board to board until and unless the board changes them.

Organization

The corporate name of this school district is Tacoma School District No. 10, Pierce County, State of Washington. The district is classified as a first-class district and is operated in accordance with the laws and regulations pertaining to first-class districts. The board shall exercise the full authority granted to it by the laws of the state to adopt the policies and regulations it deems necessary to promote the education of its students and to manage and operate the district in an efficient, effective and safe manner. Its legal powers, duties and responsibilities are derived from state statute and regulation. Sources such as the school code (Title 28A RCW), attorney general's opinions and regulations of the State Board of Education (Title 180 WAC) and the state superintendent of public instruction (Title 392 WAC) delineate the legal powers, duties and responsibilities of the board.

It is the policy of the board of directors to establish procedures for its own governance, not inconsistent with the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education or state and federal law.

Number of Members and Terms of Office

The board shall consist of five members, elected by ballot by the registered voters of the district. Except as otherwise provided by law, board members shall hold office for terms of six years and until their successors are elected and qualified. Terms of board members shall be staggered as provided by law.

Newly-elected directors shall take office at the first official meeting of the board of directors after the election results have been certified by the county auditor. Prior to beginning their term, directors shall take and subscribe to an oath of office.

Legal References:   RCW 28A.320.010   Corporate powers
                   28A.150.230   Basic Education Act of 1977
28A.315.040  Organization of school districts
28A.315.100  Classes of districts
28A.320.010  Corporate powers
28A.320.020  Liability for debts and judgments
28A.320.040  Directors--Bylaws
28A.315.450  Directors--Elections--Terms--Numbers
28A.315.470  Directors—Declaration of candidacy
28A.315.480  Directors--Ballots--Form
28A.315.500  Directors--Oath of Office
29.13.050  Commencement of terms of officers--
           Organization of district board of directors

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