

**FOREST RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 142
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY MANUAL
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School District Organization

School District Legal Status

The Illinois Constitution requires the State to provide for an efficient system of high quality public educational institutions and services in order to achieve the educational development of all persons to the limits of their capabilities.

The General Assembly has implemented this mandate through the creation of school districts. The District is governed by the laws for school districts having a population of not fewer than 1,000 and not more than 500,000.

The Board of Education constitutes a body corporate that possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes, and in that name may sue and be sued, purchase, hold and sell personal property and real estate, and enter into such obligations as are authorized by law.

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 1.
105 ILCS 5/10-1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 2:10 (School District Governance), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the Board of Education)

ADOPTED: November 18, 2008

School District Organization

District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements

The District is organized and operates as an Elementary District serving the needs of children in grades Kindergarten through 8 and others as required by The School Code. The District also offers a pre-kindergarten program for eligible students.

The District enters into and participates in joint programs and intergovernmental agreements with units of local government and other school districts in order to jointly provide services and activities in a manner that will increase flexibility, scope of service opportunities, cost reductions, and/or otherwise benefit the District and the community. The Superintendent shall manage these activities to the extent the program or agreement requires the District's participation, and shall provide periodic implementation or operational data and/or reports to the School Board concerning these programs and agreements. The District participates in the following joint programs and intergovernmental agreements:

Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education (SWCCCASE)

LEGAL REF.: Ill. Constitution, Art. VII, Sec. 10.
5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.

ADOPTED: November 18, 2008

School District Organization

School District Philosophy

Mission Statement

The mission of the Forest Ridge School District is to develop within a child-centered environment the full academic and behavioral potential of each student in a caring but demanding manner. The mission is accomplished through the cooperative efforts of students, parents, staff and the community and by wisely using all available human and financial resources.

The Forest Ridge School District 142 Board of Education believes that:

- Children always come first
- All children have the potential to succeed, have the right to develop their full potential and are expected to learn both academic and behavioral skills
- Student achievement should be our major focus and must be closely monitored
- Students must be provided a safe and healthy learning environment
- The school climate, though demanding of results, should be nurturing, fostering dignity, individuality and self-esteem
- Enthusiasm stimulates learning, while expectations influence achievement and performance
- Mutual respect and trust promote a positive school environment
- All employees play important roles in the education of children and are deserving of respect and recognition of their efforts
- Volunteers play an important role in enriching the opportunities for all students
- Parental expectations and nurturing are vital to the full development of children
- A strong partnership between the home, school and community is essential to enhance student learning
- Educated and responsible citizens are essential to the health of our society
- Excellence is worth the investment of human and financial resources
- Schools must operate within the financial resources provided to them by the local taxpayers, the State and federal government

CROSS REF: 2:10 (School District Governance), 3:10 (Goals and Objectives), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy)

ADOPTED: November 18, 2008