



Twin Rivers Unified School District

Board of Trustees Norms and Protocols

Visiting Schools

Revised 5-12-09; Presented 8-03-10



Governance Team

Norms and Protocols Opening Statement

Based on the effective governance work session of the Twin Rivers Unified School District (TRUSD) Board of Trustees and Superintendent on February 2, 2008, the Board and the Superintendent developed a series of norms and protocols to help guide the governance team's working relationships and operating practices.



These norms and protocols are consistent with Board bylaws and have been put into practice by the Board since March 2008. Written agreements establish clarity and mutually understood expectations that enable the Board as a team to build and maintain a positive culture.



Regular review of the Governance Team's Norms and Protocols at board meetings serves to ensure adherence to the Board's defined governance principles, mutual expectations, and specific processes under which the team has agreed to operate and assess its effectiveness.



Topic of Review Visiting Schools

Principle

- Board members are encouraged to visit schools. These visits provide valuable insight into how Board policy is implemented at the school site level.
- Visits to schools help demonstrate Board support for the effort and accomplishments of district staff.

Principle Continued

- Board members visit classrooms and other district offices to observe and learn, not to openly question operations and activities. Questions about specific events observed during school visits should be directed to the Superintendent.

Protocol Agreement

- As a professional courtesy, Board members will inform the Superintendent of their intention to visit specific schools and functions and will apprise the Superintendent of their impressions following the visits.
- Board members will advise school site administrators in advance of their planned visits and will follow all building protocols for sign-in and movement of visitors while on school grounds.

Protocol Agreement Continued



- Board members are free to choose which schools they will visit; however, consideration should be given to coordinating visitation schedules among all Board members to help ensure maximum Board exposure to every school in the district.

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