

1 School Board Advocacy

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3 The Board of Trustees of Jefferson High School District believes it has a responsibility to the  
4 students, parents, and community to advocate for student achievement and quality education.  
5 In order to meet these responsibilities, the District may work for the passage of new laws  
6 designed to advance the cause of good schools and for the repeal or modification of existing  
7 laws that impede this cause.

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9 Trustees, should keep themselves and community members informed of pending legislation  
10 and actively communicate board positions and concerns to elected representatives at both the  
11 state and national level. The Board should work with legislative representatives (both state  
12 and federal), with the Montana School Boards Association, the National School Boards  
13 Association, and other concerned groups in developing an annual as well as long-range  
14 legislative program.

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16 Each Trustee is encouraged to participate in the MTSBA Delegate Assembly and the MTSBA  
17 Board Legislative Contact Program and the caucuses. We also encourage each board and  
18 trustee to be aware of the importance of building a relationship with the community, to be used  
19 to increase student success.

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21 In doing so, the Board should:

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23 1. At its annual organizational meeting appoint a member as its Board Legislative Contact  
24 (BLC) to the Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA). This person may:  
25 a. Serve as the Board's liaison to MTSBA;  
26 b. Attend the Day of Advocacy during each legislative session;  
27 c. Attend other state and regional association meetings as approved by the Board  
28 and  
29 d. Advise MTSBA of the Board's views regarding MTSBA's legislative positions  
30 and activities.  
31 2. At least once each month, the Board meeting agenda may include an opportunity for the  
32 BLC to report on educational issues pending on the state and federal levels.  
33 3. Work with the BLC, MTSBA, the National School Boards Association (NSBA), and  
34 other concerned groups and organizations on matters of mutual interest.

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36 Policy History:

37 Adopted on: April 21, 2009

38 Reviewed on:

39 Revised on: January 2016

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41 January 2016 revision note: format corrections, added caucuses,

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43 Timeline index entry: Regular board meeting every May