

SECTION C: STANDARDS & INDICATORS

Note: The term “governing body” includes any school ownership structure.

STANDARD C1

The governing body shall be so constituted, with regard to membership and organization, as to provide the school with sound direction, continuity of leadership, and effective support in the current and long term life of the school.

C1a

The governing body shapes and upholds the mission, articulates a compelling vision, and ensures that its decisions support and further the mission.

C1b

The governing body promotes strong ethical values and compliance through appropriate and effective oversight.

C1c

The governing body effectively measures the school’s success in putting its mission and objectives into practice, and it promotes corrective action if results show this is needed.

C1d

The governing body invigorates itself through planned membership, thoughtful recruitment, and inclusiveness.

C1e

The governing body provides appropriate orientation and on-going training for its members in the understanding and performance of their duties and in understanding policies and their implications.

C1f

The governing body is so constituted that it can fulfil essential governance duties and provide continuity for the school in the event of sudden change in ownership, governance, and/or administration.

STANDARD C2

There shall be a co-operative and effective working relationship between the governing body and the head of school so as to establish and sustain high morale, quality relationships, and a positive climate for teaching, learning, and student well-being throughout the school.

C2a

There is a clear and effective understanding by the governing body and the head of school of their respective functions, and these understandings are set out in written form.

C2b

There is a partnership between the governing body and head of school which recognises that the effectiveness of the parties is interdependent.

C2c

The governing body and the head of school enjoy a positive, open, and mutually supportive relationship.

STANDARD C3

The head of school, while accountable to a higher authority, shall be the responsible leader to ensure that teaching, learning, and student well-being are supported and that the school’s mission is achieved.

C3a

The governing body has developed a clear, written job description for the head of school.

C3b

The head of school provides leadership for the total school programme.

C3c

The head of school sets educational priorities and outlines funding implications for submission to the governing body.

C3d

The head of school has final responsibility for the recruitment, selection, assignment, orientation, deployment and appraisal of all the administrators, teachers and support staff.

C3e

The governing body ensures that all issues pertaining to the day-to-day operations of the school are addressed through the head of school.

C3f

The head of school effectively delegates responsibility through a leadership structure that is designed to fulfil the school’s mission and objectives

STANDARD C4

The governing body shall have clearly formulated written policies and practices which are applied to bring consistency and clarity to school operations.

C4a

The governing body has a comprehensive, up-to-date, and effective policy manual for both school and governance operations.

C4b

The governing body allots sufficient time to the most important concerns and issues, and continuously engages in strategic thinking about the school's direction.

C4c

In decision-making, governing body members always put the interests of the whole school above all else, avoiding favouritism towards any individual or group.

C4d

An ethos of transparency is promoted by the governing body to ensure that appropriate members of the school's constituency have access to accurate information about decisions and matters which impact them.

C4e

Governing body policies and practices include a regular and systematic appraisal of its governance organization and effectiveness.

C4f

Governing body policies and practices include a clearly defined appraisal process for the head of school, to be conducted regularly with his/her full knowledge and to include written outcomes and provisions for discussion and appeal.

STANDARD C5

The school shall have educational and financial plans for the near and long term that ensure school viability, are supportive of the mission and are explained to the school community.

C5a

There is evidence that the short and longer-term finances of the school are sufficient to ensure it can fulfil its educational and other obligations for the foreseeable future.

C5b

The school has educational and financial plans for the short, medium and long term which are tied to the school's mission.

C5c

Financial considerations and required expertise are incorporated into the governing body's vision and plans for the school.

C5d

The school's educational and financial plans are appropriately communicated to the school community.