

Organizational Structure

Bioregional Education Association (BEA)

The School is governed by the Bioregional Education Association, a BC-registered non-profit society. The directors of the BEA compose the School Board. As a federally registered Canadian charitable organization, donations to the BEA or the School may be acknowledged with income tax receipts.

The Annual General Meeting of the BEA is held in the fall.

Where permitted by law, the BEA makes decisions by consensus.

Membership in the BEA

All regular students of the Oak and Orca School are members of the BEA. Parents are not automatically members. Anyone wishing to become a member should submit an application to the board. Applications for membership may be accepted or rejected at the discretion of the board. Each member in good standing is entitled to participate at any general meeting of the society.

Directors

Directors are appointed for 2-year terms at an AGM of the BEA. Directors may also be reappointed at an AGM. Qualification for becoming a director of the BEA includes a demonstrated commitment to and interest in the School. Interested individuals should become a member and attend several meetings of the Board. The directors may make recommendations for potential new directors at the AGM.

The responsibilities of the Board of Directors include, but are not limited to:

- ensuring the purposes of the society are fulfilled according to constitution, bylaws and policies
- ensuring financial accountability
- hiring and firing, and contract negotiation
- creating policy and following it up with necessary actions
- ensuring that the school meets all legal licensing and safety requirements (including CRD, Ministry of Education, B.C. Government, City of Victoria)
- ensuring that all required reports are submitted to various levels of government
- making final decisions on enrolment and proposals from committees and individuals

- taking leadership in forming committees to help fulfill the purposes of the BEA or the School
- keeping minutes of Board meetings and communicating pertinent decisions to parents and friends of the school

The Board meets at least monthly throughout the school year. Extraordinary meetings of the Board may be called by any director at any time. At least one representative teacher shall attend the majority of the meetings of the Board.

Non-attendance, without regrets, at several consecutive regular meetings of the Board may result in a director losing his/her position.

Committees

The Board may form committees from time to time to deal with specific items. Each committee will be facilitated by a director, and in some cases, all members of the committee will be directors. From time to time, the Board may invite others to be involved in a committee. Committee members must maintain confidentiality in all matters discussed at committee meetings or privately amongst committee members.

Committees may research, recommend, plan and/or make projections. Committees may make recommendations to the Board. Committees may not implement plans or projects without the approval of the Board.

Board/Parent Communication

The directors will endeavour to keep parents informed about important school-related decisions, unless the decisions are confidential.