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**Board Governance Policy Cross Reference:** [1, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16](#)

**Administrative Procedures Cross Reference:**

**Form Cross Reference:**

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**Legal/Regulatory Reference:**

[The Education Administration Act](#)

[The Public Schools Act](#)

[The Strengthening Local Schools Act](#)

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The Interlake School Division (ISD) believes that the review of the effectiveness and efficiency of all school facilities is required to optimize student programming and ensure the responsible use of resources and the sustainability of our schools.

A school may be recommended for formal review to the Board by the Superintendent/CEO (usually after September 30<sup>th</sup>) if one or more of the following criteria are identified as areas of concern:

- Current and future enrolment trends
- Educational programming
- Facility conditions
- Transportation feasibility
- Financial viability
- Safety

Once a school has been approved for review by the Board, the formal review process will begin.

The Province of Manitoba introduced the [The Strengthening Local Schools Act](#) legislation in 2008 which restricts school closures in Manitoba. The legislation states the following:

41(1.3)

The minister may approve a school closure referred to in subsection (1.2) if the school board demonstrates to the minister's satisfaction that

- (a) the closure is the result of a consolidation of schools within the area or community;
- (b) there is a consensus among the parents and residents of the area served by the school that the school should be closed; or
- (c) it is no longer feasible to keep the school open because of declining enrolment and, despite having made reasonable efforts, the board has been unable to expand the use of the school building for appropriate community purposes.

41(1.4)

A school board may close a school only in accordance with the regulations made under \_\_\_\_\_, and only after having made reasonable efforts to expand the use of the school building for appropriate community purposes.

School facility operations and programs will be reviewed annually by senior administration. The following areas will be taken into consideration:

- i. actual;
- ii. projected;
- iii. number of students attending school from outside the catchment area; and

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- v. financial; and
- vi. role of the school in the community.

- i. The Board will establish a School Facility Review Committee, identify a date for a final report and appoint trustee and senior administration representatives.
- ii. The Chair of the Board will call a community meeting to explain the purpose and procedures (mandate) of the review. At this meeting the parent and resident committee members will be elected. Should these positions not be filled at this meeting, committee members will be appointed.
- iii. The Secretary-Treasurer will call and preside over the first committee meeting. The agenda for this meeting will include:
  - An outline and discussion of the issue.
  - A review of the committee's mandate.
  - Election of a committee chairperson.
- iv. Subsequent committee meetings will be called by the chairperson.
- v. The committee will collect and analyze the data.
- vi. The committee will communicate information and solicit input from the community and other relevant groups within the Division.
- vii. The committee will identify the nature of the challenge(s) and consider alternative solutions.
- viii. The committee will make at least one interim progress report to the Board, in which the activities of the committee and alternatives under consideration are presented.
- ix. The committee will present to the Board a final report with specific recommendation(s) by the date specified by the Board.
- x. The Board will determine the f1 0 0 1 0912 0 614-5(y)9(t)5(h)-4(e)4(d)-4(at)-5(e)8( )-3(sp)-3(eci)1

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