

CROMAINE DISTRICT LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OPERATING PROCEDURE

General Provisions of Board Membership

What Is the Trustee's Role in Library Operations?

Mission

Cromaine District Library is a cultural center and community partner, delivering robust services for learning, enrichment, and connection.

Purpose

The library relies on its board and board members to act as stewards in ensuring that its mission is carried out and the library's future is secure.

Scope

It is the purpose of the Board of Trustees to operate the library for the welfare of the entire district, rather than for any part of the district or for any group in the district. Members of the Board of Trustees are officers responsible for the governance of the library. Each board member is a trustee of the entire community for the management of the library district.

The library is an institution dedicated to meeting the needs of a changing community. Therefore, the board recognizes the necessity of continually evaluating present services to address the changes as they occur.

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees to encourage members of its community to attend meetings. The board welcomes suggestions from its community.

General Guidelines

Board members have complete authority, within state law, over library affairs when they serve as a board legally in session. They have no authority over library affairs as individuals.

The powers of the Board of Trustees are defined in the District Library Establishment Act (MCL 397.171 to 397.196). The most important powers are the following:

- Establish, maintain, and operate a public library for the district.
- Employ and evaluate the Library Director.
- Supervise and control district library property, buildings and expansion.
- Adopt bylaws and regulations governing the board and the employees.

- Propose and, upon approval of the electors, levy a tax for support of the district library
- Issue bonds.
- Accept gifts and grants for the district library.

The following are general responsibilities of the board and trustees:

- To clarify the mission of the organization and ensure it is carried out.
- To participate in and oversee the work of board committees.
- To focus on the library's future.
- To bring unique perspectives and experiences to the library.
- To ensure adequate resources for the library to fulfill its mission.
- To assess its own performance.
- To perform all duties in good faith, with reasonable care, and in the best interests of the library.