**ROLE AS SPONSOR**

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of communicating and developing the District’s roles and responsibilities as a Sponsor. This policy seeks to promote that understanding and to further develop the Sponsor’s own quality practices.

Written Guidance

The District shall communicate its sponsorship roles and responsibilities through written guidance (“Written Guidance”). Written Guidance shall further delineate the roles and responsibilities of the sponsor, the school, and other parties associated with sponsorship. To the extent the District sponsors a “niche” community school, Written Guidance shall be tailored to the specific school.

Written Guidance shall be presented annually, at a governing authority meeting, to the sponsored school’s leaders and governing authority members. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the Written Guidance shall be presented prior to the first day of school. The District shall also offer training on the roles and responsibilities of the District as sponsor. Sponsored schools shall not be required to attend training offered by the District.

Staff Expertise

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop an organizational chart that will indicate a clear structure of sponsoring responsibilities and the specific staff and/or contractors that will fulfill those responsibilities (“Sponsor Staff”). Sponsor Staff shall have expertise in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment, special education, school accountability, school governance, and, as needed, English Language Learners (“ELL”) instruction, school facilities, and community school law.

Staff Development

The Board expects Sponsor Staff to participate in professional development that is aligned with sponsoring responsibilities. Professional development shall be based, in part, on areas identified as needing further development.

Sponsor Improvement Plan

Annually, the District shall evaluate its sponsoring obligations pursuant to a defined improvement process. The defined improvement process shall be based on the prior year’s performance as a sponsor, as reflected in the Ohio Department of Education’s (“ODE”) Overall Sponsor Rating. To the extent the District is required by ODE to adopt a sponsor improvement plan, this shall constitute the defined improvement process. If the District is not required by ODE to adopt a sponsor improvement plan, it should review areas where it was found deficient, and develop an improvement plan to improve deficient areas.

Annual Review

The District shall annually review its compliance with the law, its sponsor contracts, and these policies to determine whether it is providing efficient, proactive services to sponsored schools.

Quality Practices Rubric: A.02 – Goals and Self Evaluation; A.03 – Roles and Responsibilities; A.05 - Staff Expertise; A.05 Staff Development

Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_