LAERSKOOL VRYBURG



Establishment and functions of the SGB Policy

1. Establishment of the SGB

- Mandate: Section 16 of the SASA stipulates that the governance of every public school is vested in its governing body.
- Composition: The SGB is composed of elected members representing key stakeholders, including:
  - Parents of learners at the school (who must form the majority).
  - The principal (representing the school's management).
  - Educators employed at the school.
  - Members of the non-teaching staff.
- Term of Office: Members are elected for a term of three years.

2. Core Functions of the SGB

The functions of the SGB are divided into mandatory duties (Section 20 of the Act) and additional functions that the SGB may apply to perform (Section 21 of the Act).

Mandatory Functions (Section 20)

The SGB must:

- Promote the best interests of the school: Strive to ensure the school's development through providing quality education for all learners.
- Adopt a constitution: Establish the rules and procedures for the governing body's operation.
- Develop Policies: Create and adopt essential school policies, including:
  - Admission policy.
  - Language policy.
  - Code of conduct for learners.
  - Rules regarding religious observances at the school.
- Financial Management: Administer the school's funds and assets, including preparing an annual budget and keeping financial records.
- Support the principal: Support the principal, educators, and other staff in the performance of their professional functions.
- Maintenance: Ensure the maintenance and improvement of the school's property, buildings, and grounds.
- Staffing: Recommend the appointment of non-teaching staff to the Head of Department.

Additional Functions (Section 21)

Upon application to the Head of Department, an SGB may be allocated further responsibilities, which often include:

- Maintaining and improving the school's buildings and grounds.
- Determining the extracurricular curriculum and the choice of subject options.
- Purchasing textbooks, educational materials, or equipment for the school.
- Paying for services to the school.

3. Governance vs. Professional Management

- It is crucial to distinguish between the:
  - governance
  - functions of the SGB and the
  - professional management
  - functions of the principal:
- **SGB (Governance)**: Focuses on policy, finances, strategic planning, and property management.
- **Principal (Management)**: Focuses on the day-to-day running of the school, curriculum delivery, and the management of educators and staff.

*Note: This information is a summary based on the South African Schools Act. For specific operational procedures at Laerskool Vryburg Primary, the school's internal SGB Constitution and specific policies adopted by the board should be consulted.