



Book	School Board Policies
Section	Ch. 1. School District
Title	Independent Referendum Oversight Committee
Number	1.099
Status	Active
Adopted	October 5, 2011
Last Revised	September 7, 2016

Policy 1.099 Independent Referendum Oversight Committee

- 1. Purpose.** The Independent Referendum Oversight Committee created as the independent citizens' oversight committee to ensure that the proceeds of the School Board's levy of operation millage pursuant to Section 1011.71(9), Florida Statutes, approved by the voters of Palm Beach County in November 2014 are expended for the specific purposes set forth in the ballot measure or referendum as approved by voters in November 2014.

The citizens of Palm Beach County duly passed a referendum, in November 2014, which specifically provided: "Shall the School Board of Palm Beach County have the authority to continue to levy 0.25 mills of ad valorem millage dedicated for operational needs of non-charter District schools to fund teachers as well as arts, music, physical education, career and academic programs for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2019, with oversight by an independent finance committee of citizens and experts?"

- 2. Committee Key Areas of Responsibility.** The Independent Referendum Oversight Committee (Committee) shall have such responsibilities as outlined below.
 - Provide oversight and review expenditure reports produced by the District to:
 - Ensure that one hundred percent (100%) of proceeds are expended only for the purposes set forth in the ballot measure; and
 - Make reports to the Board and Superintendent, which shall include, but not be limited to a statement indicating whether the District is in compliance with the requirements of the ballot measure, and a summary of the Committee's proceedings and activities.
 - Receive and review any copies of a District audit, if any, regarding the proceeds related to the ballot measure.
- 3. Composition; Appointment; Term.**
 - Composition and Appointment.** The membership of the Committee shall consist of twelve (12) members who are residents of Palm Beach County, including:
 - One (1) representative each from the following Board advisory committees: Audit, Finance, and Budget; One (1) representative appointed by the Palm Beach County League of Cities;
 - One (1) representative from the Black community as designated by the Urban League of Palm Beach County;
 - One (1) representative from the Hispanic community as designated by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; and
 - Two (2) representatives appointed by the Business Forum of Palm Beach County as created under the economic council.
 - One (1) representative as recommended by the Black Chamber of Commerce of Palm Beach County;
 - One (1) representative from the Coalition of Boynton West Residential Associations;
 - One (1) representative from the condominium residents as recommended by the West Boca Community Council; and
 - One (1) representative as recommended by the Palm Beach County Branch of the NAACP.

All of these organizations may also nominate one alternate member. Alternate members have a right to attend and participate at all meetings but do not count towards the quorum or have the right to vote while the member from that organization is present at the meeting. If the member is not present, the alternate is a voting member for that meeting and counts towards the quorum. No person appointed to the Committee may be an employee of the District.

- b. **Non-voting Members.** There shall be two (2) non-voting members of the Committee. Such members shall be a representative of the Principals' Association and a representative of the Classroom Teachers Association.
- c. **Term.** The terms of the committee members shall be as provided in Board Policy 1.09 (Advisory Committees to the Board) or shall end in accordance with the time limitation imposed by the referendum.
- d. **Committee Meetings, Operations, Procedures and Administrative Matters**
- i. *Meetings.* The Committee will hold its regular meetings on a quarterly basis, or as otherwise needed, and consistent with the provisions of Board Policy 1.09.
 - ii. Consistent with Board Policy 1.09, the committee member selected by committee members to serve as the committee's chair shall be limited to four (4) consecutive years as committee chair. The term limitation for the committee chair as provided for herein became effective commencing in January 2012. However, if the committee votes to recommend that the term limitation be extended, this recommendation shall be presented to the Board for a vote to approve. This vote by the committee must be made at least six weeks before the committee's organizational meeting during the fourth year and may be made on an annual basis thereafter. If the Board approves, that committee's chair may run for re-election at the next election.
 - iii. A committee member will be removed automatically should he or she or their alternate miss two (2) consecutive regular meetings, unless, by request of the member, the Chair grants compassionate leave due to personal, business, or familial exigency, or other good cause. Upon removal of a member the organization will be requested to submit nominees for vacancies.
 - iv. *Quorum.* A quorum shall consist of 40% (rounded to the nearest whole number) of the existing voting members.
 - v. Committee members may attend meetings, participate and vote at meetings through the use of an interactive video and/or telephone systems ("Electronic Media Technology"), provided a quorum of voting committee members are physically present at the meeting and the voting member(s) not physically present meets at least one of the following criteria: (i) the voting member resides outside of a circle whose radius is 25 miles from a centerpoint located at the Fulton-Holland Educational Service Center; (ii) the voting member is travelling outside the boundaries of Palm Beach County at the time of the meeting; (iii) the voting member is confined to home or hospital due to illness or accident; or (iv) in those situations where the voting member's absence is due to a death or serious illness of an immediate family member. Any voting member wishing to participate or vote in a meeting by Electronic Media Technology shall notify the Committee staff liaison as soon as practicable that the member wishes to participate in the meeting by Electronic Media Technology. Any voting member participating or voting by Electronic Media Technology shall be responsible for the expenses associated with his/her participation, unless the District staff is able to provide the Electronic Media Technology at minimal or no incremental cost, or the expense is approved in advance by the Chief Operating Officer.
 - v. Except as set forth herein, the Committee shall conduct its meetings and operate consistent the provisions of Board Policy 1.09.
- e. **Documents to Committee Members.** Upon approval of Committee members by the Board, Committee members shall be provided with a copy of this policy, a copy of Board Policy 1.09(Advisory committees to the Board), and a copy of the Board's resolution for the referendum.
- f. **Duration of Charter.** Consistent with the referendum measure, this charter shall remain in effect until all proceeds of the referendum for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2019 have been expended and accounted for consistent with the referendum measure. The Committee's charter may be automatically extended to any future levies of operation millage pursuant to Section 1011.71(9), Florida Statutes, if such referendums require oversight by a citizens committee.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:	Fla. Stat. §§ 1001.32(2); 1001.41(2); 1001.42(28); 1001.43(2), (4) & (10)
LAWS IMPLEMENTED:	Fla. Stat. §§ 1001.32(2); 1001.41(1); 1001.42(9); 1001.43(4) & (10); 119.071; 286.011; 112.313
HISTORY:	10/5/2011; 09/07/2016

Last Modified by Carol Bass on September 9, 2016