

# Great Oaks Academy

## Definitions Policy No. 105

### I. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to promote understanding and consistency of meaning to assist the Great Oaks Academy community in reviewing, interpreting, amending and/or implementing the policies set forth in this manual of policies.

### II. General Statement of Policy

The Definitions set forth hereafter in this policy shall have the meanings attached to them for purposes of understanding, interpreting and implementing the policies in the Great Oaks Academy Manual of policies.

### III. Definitions

- A. "Articles" or "Articles of Incorporation" shall mean the most recent version of the organizing document of the school filed with the Minnesota Secretary of State on October 1, 2018.
- B. "Authorizer" shall mean the school's charter school authorizer.
- C. "The Board of Directors" or "the Board" shall mean the members of the Great Oaks Academy Board of Directors.
- D. "Bylaws" shall mean the Amended and Restated Bylaws of Great Oaks Academy, revised and adopted on March 20th, 2023.
- E. "Charter School Act" shall mean Minnesota Statutes 2017, section 124E as amended.
- F. "Charter School Contract" shall mean the current written agreement between the school and its Authorizer.
- G. "Duty of Care" shall mean the legal obligation of directors to discharge their duty with the care an ordinary person in a like position would exercise under the circumstances.
- H. "Duty of Loyalty" shall mean the legal obligation of directors to act in a good faith manner they reasonably believe to be in the best interests of the school.
- I. "Duty of Obedience" shall mean the legal obligation of directors to be familiar with and comply with the laws that govern the operation of the school, including the school's governing documents, sponsor contract, manual of policies, and bylaws.
- J. "Executive Director" or "the Director" shall mean the person hired to work with the Great Oaks Academy Board to lead the school in fulfillment of its mission and vision, oversees broad strategic school initiatives and administrative functions including managing the budget and fundraising, managing the facility and staffing, liaises with our authorizer and MDE.
- K. "Academic Director" shall mean the person hired to implement the Academy's curricular program. The Academic Director works with the Executive Director to fulfill the mission and vision of the Academy, oversees the day to day academic function of the Academy, including teacher development and evaluation, curriculum planning, testing, and classroom culture.
- L. "Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation Act" shall mean Minnesota Statutes 2017, section 317A, as amended.
- M. "Parent Association" shall mean The Great Oaks Academy Parent Association which is a partnership between Great Oaks Academy and its families. Its primary mission is to support the Mission and Vision of Great Oaks Academy by enhancing the school culture through the planning, executing, and funding of events and programs for students.

- N. "Principles of a Classical Education" shall mean the document produced by the school's Curriculum Policy 601 and Mission and Vision Policy 101 and approved by the board of directors.
- O. "School" or "Academy" shall mean Great Oaks Academy.
- P. "Mission" of the school shall mean: "The mission of Great Oaks Academy is to cultivate the hearts and minds of our students through a classical, liberal arts education with instruction that is rigorous, literature-rich, wondrous, and virtuous in a disciplined and engaging environment." See Policy 101 on the Mission and Vision of the School.

#### IV. Updates

Definitions may be updated, removed, or changed from time to time to reflect changes in law or Regulation(s), Authorizer and/or Minnesota Dept. of Education directives, or to clarify school policy or governance, by the affirmative approval of at least 2/3 of a quorum at a regular or special meeting of the Great Oaks Academy Board of Directors. Any changes must go through the process of Policy 208, The Development, Adoption and Implementation of Policies before it can be implemented and adopted. The Board of Directors must disclose the changes and state the reasons for following any such change(s). Legal References must be cited along with the disclosed changes.

**Legal References:**

Minnesota Statutes 2017, section 124E

**Cross References:**

Curriculum Policy 601

Mission and Vision Policy 101

Development, Adoption and Implementation of Policies 208