

## How Westminster School is Governed

The Westminster School at Oak Mountain is a ministry of Oak Mountain Presbyterian Church (“OMPC”). This means that it is not an independent legal entity, but is a ministry of the church in the same manner as the music ministry, the youth ministry, or any other ministry. As such, it operates under the authority of OMPC’s session, which is made up of OMPC’s teaching elders (pastors) and ruling elders. However, because of the large administrative burden and specialized focus required for managing a K-12 school ministry, the session has appointed a school board of ten individuals [See Board] to hire and supervise the Head of School and to shepherd the vision of the school. In addition, OMPC’s senior pastor (or his designee) and the Head of School are *ex officio* (non-voting) members of the board. The board has adopted bylaws and policies to govern its operation.

### Qualifications for Board Membership

The board’s bylaws set forth several requirements regarding the composition of the board:

**A minimum of six Board members must be OMPC members. A minimum of three Board members (who may be part of the six referenced in the previous sentence) must be OMPC ruling or teaching elders. Each of the remaining four Board members must:**

- A. be a member in good standing of an evangelical church**
- B. personally subscribe to the Westminster Confession of Faith (with exceptions only to the extent deemed permissible by the Session)**
- C. attempt in good faith to enroll at least one of the member's children in the School, provided that the member is the parent or guardian of a child eligible for enrollment in first grade or above.**

Board members serve three-year terms. Any member may serve two consecutive terms, after which he must rotate off the board for at least one year before being reappointed.

### Board Responsibilities

Generally, the board holds called meetings monthly. Board meetings are closed to non-board members except at the invitation of the board. The board derives its authority from the OMPC Session. Any action of the board may be vacated by the Session at any time. If the Session deems it necessary, the Session may dissolve the board and act as the board under the bylaws.

The board is responsible for general oversight of the Head of School, approval of the annual school budget, and development and approval of policy. The board is not responsible for the day-to-day administration of the school. Therefore, while anyone is welcome to speak with board members about the school at any time, conversations about specific classroom, administrative or disciplinary issues should ordinarily take place directly with the teacher or staff member involved in the situation.