

# MVLS Policy Manual

## Section 1: Board Governance

Policy Title: Board Governance Policies - General

Policy Number: 1.0

Policy Manual Section: Internal Policies 1. Board Governance

Policy Purpose: The purpose of the Board Governance Policies is to support the mission of the Mohawk Valley Library System by insuring that the board defines the mission, plans for implementing the mission and operates according to laws and regulations. This policy supports effective public library service for community members at member libraries through the effective provision of system services and through modeling effective governance for the members. All Plan of Service categories are supported by this policy.

Legal Citations/Legal Requirements Addressed: MVLS Board Governance Policies address NYS Public Library Minimum Standards 1-6, 2, 5, and 7, found at:

<https://nyslibrary.libguides.com/publiclibrarystandards>.

NYS Education Law Pamphlet 9 provides some legal background for organizations chartered by the regents. It can be found at: [www.counsel.nysed.gov/pamphlet9/](http://www.counsel.nysed.gov/pamphlet9/).

The 2013 Non-Profit Revitalization Act at: [www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/trustees/coi-wb.htm](http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/trustees/coi-wb.htm) provides further information for Association library policy and practice requirements.

NYSED Library Law Citations: The Education Department provides a good overview of library law at: <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/fundlaw2.htm>.

Policy Statement: The Mohawk Valley Library System will develop, maintain and comply with an approved By-laws, Conflict of Interest and Whistleblower policies. These policies will be reviewed and updated by the MVLS Board of Trustees at least every three years. In addition, MVLS will develop and maintain a Mission Statement, Impact Statement, Long Range Plan of Service and Annual Reports. These documents will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees on an annual basis.

Policies Attached: By-Laws; Conflict of Interest Policy; Whistleblower Policy

Other Attachments: Mission Statement; Impact Statement; Plan of Service; Committee Charges

Approved: October 15, 2015

Revised: