

Governance of The Friends' School

Since 1924, the responsibility for appointing the members of the School's Board of Governors has rested with Australia Yearly Meeting. The Board consists of not less than 12, and not more than 18 Governors. Two of them, the Principal of the School and the Presiding Clerk of Yearly Meeting are members ex officio. The remainder are appointed by Yearly Meeting on the nomination of the Association. Each Regional Meeting in Australia except Tasmania nominates one Board member, and Tasmania Regional Meeting nominates three. Consequently, 9 members of the Board are nominated by Regional Meetings of the Society of Friends. The remaining Governors (up to 8) are drawn from the Tasmanian community, being recommended by the Executive Committee of the Board in Hobart. Since 1989, it has been the policy for one of these Governors to be a member of staff.

The Executive Committee comprises those Governors who live in Tasmania. It meets about once each month, and sets the policies and goals of the School and monitors the management of the School in accordance with those policies and goals. The Rules of the Association state that the Executive Committee is "entitled to exercise all the powers and functions of the Board, but shall observe any direction which the Board communicates to it for that purpose".

The full Board meets at least twice a year. One of those meetings occurs in conjunction with Yearly Meeting, and the other generally occurs in May, in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of the Association.

The Presiding Member and Deputy Presiding Member of the Board are appointed by the Board each year, at the first meeting of the Board after Yearly Meeting. The Executive Committee appoints its own Presiding Member and Deputy Presiding Member.

The Rules of the Association require that the Principal of the School be a member of the Society of Friends, unless the Board after due enquiry, has been unable to obtain the services of a suitable appointee. In that event, a non-Friend may be appointed if Standing Committee consents, for such period and on such terms as Standing Committee may approve.