

Middle Tennessee State University
Board of Trustees Policy
Channel of Authority and Communications

Section 1. Purpose. This policy provides for the official channel of authority and communication with the Board of Trustees (Board) and the faculty, staff and students of Middle Tennessee State University. This channel shall officially be through the President. Board members have the right and duty to be fully informed on all matters that influence their obligations as trustees.

Section 2. University Community Responsible to the President. All faculty, staff, and students must, through appropriate channels, be responsible to the President, and through the President, to the Board, unless otherwise specifically directed by the Board.

Section 3. Communication to the Board. Communication from faculty, staff or students to the Board must flow through the President, unless otherwise specifically directed by the Board. Notwithstanding the foregoing, faculty members may communicate directly with the faculty trustee, and students may communicate directly with the student trustee.

Section 4. Communication from the Board. The Board Chair serves as the spokesperson for the Board on matters voted on and approved by the Board. Board information, such as meeting agendas, meeting minutes and the materials supporting agenda items, will be housed on the Board website.

Section 5. Recommendations for the Board. When faculty, staff and students bring forward recommended changes to policies, programs, and other matters on which they request Board consideration, such recommendations must be transmitted to the President. The President has the discretion to bring the matter before the Board and may confer with the Board Chair in making this decision. The President will convey the decision to the individual or body requesting consideration.

Section 6. Presidential Oversight of Campus Community. The Board has the responsibility for oversight of the President, but delegates authority to the President for oversight of faculty, staff, students, or others engaged in communications or by contract with the University.

Section 7. Except for the purposes of inquiry or information, a Board member shall not give direction to or interfere with any employee, officer, or agent under the direct or indirect supervision of the President.

Effective Date: June 5, 2017.

Revisions: None.