



New Board Member Orientation Document

E.S.C. Mission Statement

To promote environmental stewardship and academic achievement through science-based education.

E.S.C. Vision Statement

Our community is inspired and contributes to a sustainable future through quality environmental science education.

Leading to:

- Increased enjoyment and understanding of environmental science
- Sense of community responsibility for healthy choices that effect the Puget Sound ecosystem
- Improved quality of life and career opportunities for children from low-income families through involvement in STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) classes
- Greater representation of diverse communities in STEM occupational fields

E.S.C. Core Values

Respect for the Environment- We recognize that making choices that benefit our environment stems from a respect for the natural world.

Community Engagement- We understand that positive change starts with investing in the communities in which we live and work, and that everyone within our community can impact the health of our environment.

Academic Achievement- We know that STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) education can improve the quality of life and career opportunities for people within our community.

Discovery and Exploration- We support hands-on learning opportunities that produce engaging and quality educational experiences with lasting impact.

Equity and Access- We believe that everyone should have access to quality science education.

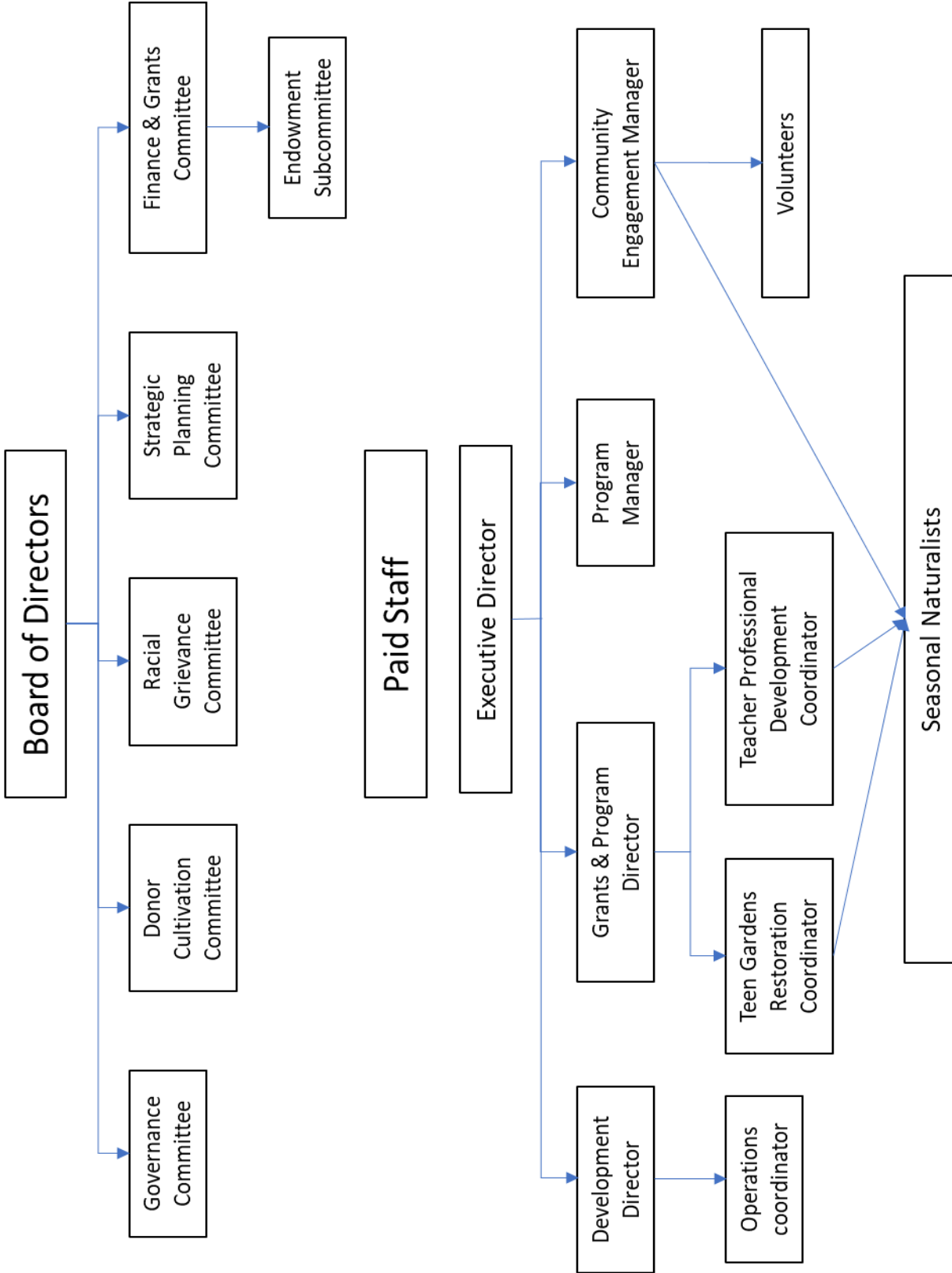
E.S.C. Strategic Goals

Goal 1: Enhance ESC's in depth environmental outdoor programs using a district wide approach.

Goal 2: Offer relevant and community focused public programs.

Goal 3: Ensure ESC's continued financial health and diversify revenue sources.

E.S.C. Organization Chart



Board Member Position Overview

Functions

The Board of Directors is the primary force leading ESC to the realization of its mission and vision.

Responsibilities

ESC's board has two basic responsibilities—support and governance—each requiring different skills and expertise. In the role of "supporter" board members raise money, bring contacts to the organization, and act as ambassadors to the community. Equally important, the "governance" role involves protecting and providing financial oversight, selecting the executive director and assessing their performance, planning and monitoring ESC's strategic goals, ensuring compliance with legal and tax requirements, and evaluating our organization's work.

Opportunities & Benefits

This is an exceptional opportunity to foster the growth and development of a local nonprofit organization devoted to improving the quality of science education and promoting environmental stewardship. Benefits include:

- Satisfaction in contributing to the common good. Each board member's gift of time and energy is of indispensable help to our organization and the community.
- Personal growth and opportunity to further refine and enhance leadership skills and experience.
- An opportunity to play a direct role in determining an organization's overall direction and impact.
- Connect with influential leaders, experts, and stakeholders in the environmental field to expand personal, community, and professional networks.
- Work with individuals of diverse backgrounds.
- Stay informed about the latest research, technologies, and trends in environmental science.

Board Member Selection Process

Candidates will be asked to complete a short application (available on line). Candidates will meet with one or more members of the Board. Nominations will be made to the Board of Directors for consideration. Board member-elects will be invited to attend one board meeting where they can meet and exchange information with the rest of the board. Board quorum and majority approval is required to elect new board members.

Once you join the board you will be assigned a board buddy by the Governance Committee Chair. The Executive Director will set up a meeting with you to review the Board Orientation Manual (available on line). You will be invited to observe committees and to select a committee to join. You will need to provide a short bio for the ESC website to the Secretary. You will be provided with a new board member name tag and board business cards. A background check will be completed. You will be asked to observe or support at least one ESC Program per year. For more details, please refer to the *Board Orientation Manual Checklist*.

E.S.C. Board Committees

E.S.C. committees consist of board members and other volunteers. Each committee meets on a schedule decided by the members of the committee. Most committees meet monthly, either in person or virtually. The main committees are:

- Governance Committee
- Donor Cultivation Committee
- Racial Grievance Committee
- Strategic Planning Committee
- Finance & Grants Committee
- Endowment Subcommittee

Other committees, such as the Renton Planning Committee, are created for specific purposes as needed.

Donor Cultivation Committee

The Donor Cultivation Committee (DCC) supports staff in sustaining and increasing the number of donors who award individual gifts to ESC and who participate in ESC's membership program.

Governance Committee

The Governance Committee (GC) is responsible for ongoing review and recommendations to enhance the quality and future viability of the board of directors. The governance committee's work revolves around the following areas: Board Roles and Responsibilities; Composition; Knowledge; Effectiveness; Leadership

Racial Grievance Committee

The Racial Grievance Committee supports the staff and board by developing ESC's anti-racism vision and plan and ensuring ESC's Strategic Plan is carried out through a racial equity lens.

Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee supports the staff and board by reviewing and revising the Strategic Plan as necessary.

Finance and Grants Committee

The Finance and Grants Committee (FGC) supports staff by reviewing monthly board financial reports, administering accounting assistance, and providing guidance for staff to enhance the organization's revenue from grants.

Endowment Subcommittee

The Endowment Subcommittee supports the staff and board by regularly reviewing the investment strategies of the ESC Endowment.

E.S.C. Programs

In-School Programs

- Salmon Heroes
- Beach Heroes
- Teacher Professional Development

Youth Leadership and Teen Programs

- Student Naturalists
- Restoration Projects
- Teen Volunteer Program

Out of School/After School Programs

- NAAEE After School Program
- New Futures Elementary Summer/After-school Field Study

Community Programs-Burien

- Burien Tidepool for Tots
- Burien Bird and Plant Walks
- Burien Summer & Winter Beach Walks
- Burien Seahurst Beach Cleanup
- Burien Bird Fest

Community Programs-Renton

- Renton Senior Center & Family Programs
- Renton Family Backpack kits at Liberty Park
- Renton Earth Day & Day of Service Events
- Renton Salmon and Summer Festivals
- Water Quality Monitoring

Community Programs-general

- New Futures Aquarium Open House
- Outreach Presentations
- Community Festivals

Fee for Service

- Family First After School
- Burien No Child Left Inside (NCLI) Summer Camp
- BirdsConnect Summer Camp
- Burien StormFest
- Family Foresters-Normandy Park Restoration Events