

Powers and Duties of the School Board

The powers and duties of the School Board generally include:

1. Formulating, adopting, and modifying School Board policies, at its sole discretion, subject only to mandatory collective bargaining agreements and State and federal law.
2. Employing a Superintendent and other personnel, making employment decisions, and dismissing personnel.
3. Approving the annual budget, tax levies, major expenditures, payment of obligations, annual audit, and other aspects of the District's financial operation;
4. Letting contracts utilizing the public bidding procedure when required;
5. Providing, constructing, controlling, supervising, and maintaining adequate physical facilities;
6. Directing, through policy, the Superintendent, in his or her charge of the District's administration.
7. Approving the curriculum, textbooks, and educational services;
8. Evaluating the educational program and approving School Improvement and District Improvement Plans when they are required to be developed or revised.
9. Establishing and supporting student discipline policies designed to maintain an environment conducive to learning, including hearing individual student suspension or expulsion cases brought before it.
10. Establishing attendance units within the District and assigning students to the schools;
11. Establishing the school year;
12. Visiting District facilities. per policy 8:30, *Visitors To and Conduct On School Property*;
13. Providing student transportation services;
14. Entering into joint agreements with other school boards to establish cooperative educational programs or provide educational facilities; and
15. Complying with requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. Specifically, each individual School Board member must, if an allegation is raised to the member during an open or closed School Board meeting that a student is an abused child as defined in the Act, direct or cause the School Board to direct the Superintendent or other equivalent school administrator to comply with the Act's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse.
16. Communicating the schools' activities and operations to the community and representing the needs and desires of the community in educational matters.

Communications To and From the Board

Staff members, parents, and community members should submit questions or communications to the School Board through the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall provide the Board with a summary of these questions or communications and provide, as appropriate, his or her feedback regarding the matter.

If contacted individually, Board members' questions or communications to staff or about programs will be channeled through the Superintendent's office. Board members will not take private action that might compromise the Board or District. There is no expectation of privacy for any communication sent to the Board or its members individually, whether sent by letter, email, or other means.

Communication Chain

A parent having a problem or concern should first contact the child's teacher. Usually the problem is solved most quickly at this level. After speaking with the teacher, the parent may wish to contact the Assistant Principal or Principal. If the problem is not resolved, the Superintendent would be contacted next. Concerns are best handled at the building level with those personnel familiar with the situation.