



**Board Policy**

## **Board Powers and Duties**

**Board  
Operations  
Policy 2002**

### **Policy Statement**

The Board is a legislative body whose authority is given to it by state law. The Board's power is judicial and legislative, and the Superintendent is appointed by the Board to be the executive officer of the District.

The Board exists only when it is in session, and only when the necessary number of Board members meets in accordance with state law do they become the governing unit or Board of the District. Outside of these legally noticed meetings, an individual member does not have any authority, nor does the Board have actual existence. All decisions regarding school matters must be the result of Board action in a regular or special meeting of the Board.

The judgment of the majority of the Board shall take precedence over that of any individual member. The Board shall follow the laws adopted for the regulation of the business affairs of a District as specified in state law. In the District, there will be seven members of the Board who will serve terms as designated by state law. Powers and mandatory duties of the Board are defined in state statutes. Many powers are granted and many duties assigned throughout the State education code and regulations.

Others are specified by the State Board of Education.

The Board confirms that its most important legal functions shall fall into the following categories:

**1. Policymaking:**

The Board shall be responsible for the development of policy and the employment of a Superintendent who shall carry out the policies through the development and implementation of regulations.

**2. Educational Planning and Appraisal:**

The Board shall be responsible for acquiring and requiring from District administration reliable information that will enable it to make the best possible decisions about the scope and nature of the educational program. This information will include a rationale statement, impact study, financial implications, and a summary of all options considered. This information will be available to the Board one week prior to the date on which Board action on the topic is taken. The Board shall be responsible for requiring evaluation of the results and effectiveness of the educational program.

	<p><b>3. Staffing and Appraisal:</b></p> <p>The Board shall be responsible for employing the staff necessary for carrying out the instructional program and other functions of the District. The Board shall be responsible for establishing salaries and salary schedules and other terms and conditions for employment. The Board also shall be responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of its staff by providing for regular performance reviews of all employees.</p> <p><b>4. Financial Resources:</b></p> <p>The Board shall be responsible for adopting a budget that will provide the financial basis for staff, materials, supplies, and equipment which shall enable the District to carry out its mission. The Board shall be responsible for exercising control over the finances of the District to assure proper use of, and accounting for, all District funds.</p> <p><b>5. School Facilities:</b></p> <p>The Board shall be responsible for determining school building needs, for communicating these needs to the community, for purchasing property, and for approving building renovation plans that will support and enhance the educational program in District schools.</p> <p><b>6. Communication with Public:</b></p> <p>The Board shall be responsible for providing effective communication with the community and for being open to community input on all matters related to the operation of the District.</p> <p><b>7. Judicial:</b></p> <p>The Board shall be responsible for acting as a court of appeal for employees, students, and the public when issues involve Board policy and their fair implementation or when otherwise directed by law.</p> <p>The Board may exercise the above legal powers and duties only when convened in a legally constituted meeting.</p>	
<b>Responsibility</b>	This policy shall be monitored by the Superintendent who will report once a year on any changes to this policy.	
<b>References</b>	<p>14 Del.C. Ch. 10</p> <p>Related Polices: 2003 Board Organization,</p>	

<b>Adoption Date</b>	Established by law (as BA and BBA), 08/19/1981 (as BBAA)	
<b>Revision/ Reapproval Date</b>	01/21/2009	