

Bylaws of the Board

Responsibilities and Duties of Board of Education Members

The Board of Education should make every effort to sustain a high level of professionalism in the school system. In order to maintain appropriate standards it is essential that individual Board members exhibit civility, integrity, and a willingness to apply themselves wholeheartedly to the business of supporting and governing the school system. Board members have the following basic duties and responsibilities:

1. To be aware of state school laws, regulations of the Department of Education, district policies, rules and regulations;
2. To have a general knowledge of the educational aims and objectives of the system;
3. To thoroughly prepare for Board meetings;
4. To participate, if possible, in the various training opportunities that are offered locally, regionally, and nationally for Board members to become better informed Board members;
5. To work harmoniously with other Board members without trying to either dominate or neglect one's share of the work;
6. To vote and act impartially in Board meetings for the benefit of the school district, students and residents of the town;
7. To accept the will of the majority vote and give support to the resulting policy;
8. To refer all suggestions and complaints from constituents to the Superintendent and, or Board, and to abstain from individual counsel and action;
9. To understand the individual Board member has no authority when the Board is not in session unless authorized by the Board;
10. To make no promise or commitment on school questions unless they are fully discussed and acted upon in a Board meeting;
11. To hold confidential all matters properly discussed in executive session of the Board and all matters pertaining to the schools that, if discussed, might needlessly injure individuals or the schools;
12. To immediately object to public matters that may be inappropriately brought up during executive session;

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13. To make every reasonable attempt to remedy any and all complaints and objections about procedures with members of the Board and the Superintendent before making them a matter of public controversy;
14. To represent the Board and the district schools to the public in such a way as to promote both interest and support for public education and educational opportunities in the community.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

1-200 Definitions.

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education.

10-220 duties of boards of education.

10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules.

10-240 Control of schools.

10-241 Powers of school districts.

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