

SCOTLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION Bylaws of the Board

Limits of Authority

General

The Board is the unit of authority. Apart from their function as part of the unit, board members have no individual authority. Individually the board member may not commit the district to any policy, act or expenditure. The board member is prohibited from doing business with the school district and from having an interest in any contract with the school district in general. The board member does not represent a factional segment of the community, but is rather a part of the body which represents and acts for the community as whole. No individual member of the board, by virtue of holding office, shall exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools, nor as an individual command the services of any school employee. No member of the board of education shall be asked to perform any routine or clerical duties which may be assigned to an employee.

The Board's statutory authority as spelled out in Board policy 9000 is to be exercised collectively by Board members in public meetings of the Board and in committee meetings. Except for specific responsibilities of the Board officers set forth in board policy 9040, individual members have no individual authority in the district school, unless carrying out an assignment specifically authorized at a meeting of the Board, but exercise governance as part of the entire Board of Education or of a specifically authorized committee working under specific committee charges from the Board.

Elected Members of the Board of Education

Members of the Board are expected to represent and balance the educational interests of students in the public school, district citizens, and the State of Connecticut through:

1. Advocacy for appropriate educational opportunities for district students;
2. Regular attendance at Board meetings;
3. Participation in meeting discussions on issues before the Board;
4. Suggesting agenda topics to the Superintendent of Schools or the Board Chairperson;
5. Regular attendance and fulfilling responsibilities on committees to which they are appointed;
6. Becoming knowledgeable about Board authority, constraints, and procedures;
7. Becoming informed about the local school and its educational programs and activities;
8. Representing the community as part of a representative democratic governmental body;
9. Understanding and following Board of Education policy.

(cf. 1312 Public Complaints)

(cf. 4118.2 Academic Freedom)

(cf. 5145.2 Freedom of Speech/Expression)

(cf. 6144 Controversial Issues)

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Limits of Authority (continued)

(cf. 9012 Role of Board of Education Members)

(cf. 90408 Duties of Board Officers)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 10-220 Duties of boards of education.
 10-232 Restrictions on employment of members of the board of education.