

School Board Powers and Duties

The Board shall concern itself primarily with broad questions of policy rather than with administrative details. The application of policies is an administrative task to be performed by the Superintendent and District staff, who shall be held responsible for the effective administration and supervision of the entire school system.

The Board, functioning within the framework of laws, court decisions, opinions of attorneys general, State Department of Education regulations, and similar mandates from the State and national levels of government, recognizing the authority of the State, fulfills its mission as the governing body of a political subdivision by acting as follows in the execution of its duties:

1. Enacting policy;
2. Adopting courses of study and providing instructional aides;
3. Employing all staff members and fixing and prescribing their duties;
4. Approving the budget, financial reports, audits, major expenditures, payment of obligations, and policies whereby the administration may formulate procedures, regulations, and other guides for the orderly accomplishment of business;
5. Estimating and seeking to provide funds for the operation, support, maintenance, improvement, and extension of the school system;
6. Providing for the planning, expansion, improvement, financing, construction, maintenance, use, and disposition of physical plants of the school system;
7. Prescribing the minimum standards needed for the efficient operation and improvements of the school system;
8. Evaluating the educational program to determine the effectiveness with which the schools are achieving the educational purpose of the school system;
9. Requiring the establishment and maintenance of records, accounts, archives, management methods, and procedures considered essential to the efficient conduct of school business;
10. Providing for the dissemination of information relating to the schools necessary for creating a well-informed public.

Board Goals and Objectives

Each year, the Board may formulate annual objectives for the District and have available a written comprehensive philosophy of education with goals which reflect the District's philosophy of education. The philosophy of education and goals shall be in writing and shall be available to the staff and to the public. To this end the Board may:

1. Periodically set performance objectives for the Board itself and evaluate their accomplishments;
2. Establish practical and simple goals and conduct a concrete review annually of performance against these goals;
3. Manage the school system in accordance with Board policy; and
4. Maintain two-way communication with the public served by the schools.

At the conclusion of the year, the Superintendent may submit a report to the Board, which shall reflect the degree to which the annual objectives have been accomplished. Upon receipt and review of the report the Board may:

1. Hold an evaluation of the objectives at a regular meeting or a work session with all Board Members present;
2. Develop a consensus of opinion on the objectives following a discussion by all Board Members; and
3. Develop both short and long range priorities to ensure continued proficiency in areas of excellence, to strengthen weak areas, and to eliminate those areas no longer applicable.

Evaluation of Board

At the conclusion of each year, the Board may evaluate its own performance in terms of generally accepted principles of successful Board operations.

The Board may choose to evaluate the effectiveness of the processes that it employs in carrying out the responsibilities of the District. Those processes include-but are not limited to team building, decision making, functions planning, communications, motivation, influence and policy.

The Board reserves all other rights, statutory and inherent as provided by state law. The Board also reserves the right to delegate authority to the Superintendent for the on-going direction of all district programs.

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-313 Trustee Zones
 I.C. § 33-501 Board of Trustees
 I.C. § 33-506 Organization and government of Board of Trustees
 I.C. § 33-511 Maintenance of schools
 I.C. § 33-512 Governance of schools
 I.C. § 33-1612 Thorough system of public school
 I.C. § 74-202 Open Public Meetings – Definitions

Policy History:

Adopted on: June 11, 2003

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