

**Bylaw**

ROLE OF THE BOARD

The general mandatory powers and duties of the board are defined in Title 18A of New Jersey statutes. Other sections of the statutes state or imply that a local board of education has full power to operate the local public schools as it deems fit in compliance with state and federal mandates and pertinent laws of the municipality. The board functions only when in session.

The board of education sees these as its required functions:

A. Policy oversight

The board is responsible for the development of policy and for the employment of a superintendent who shall carry out its policies through the development and implementation of regulations. The board is responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of its policies and their implementation. This includes setting and evaluating goals in educational and financial areas.

B. Educational planning

The board is responsible for requiring and acquiring reliable information from responsible sources that will enable it and the staff to work toward the continuing improvement of the educational program.

C. Provision of financial resources

The board has major responsibilities for the adoption of a budget that will provide the wherewithal--in terms of buildings, staff, materials, and equipment--to enable the school system to carry out its functions.

D. Interpretation

The board is responsible for providing adequate and direct means for keeping the local community informed about the school and for keeping itself and the school staff informed about the wishes of the public. All planning, that which is and that which is not related to the budget, needs to be interpreted to the public if citizens are to support the school program.

E. Appraisal

The board is responsible for the careful examination and study of facts and conditions, to determine the efficiency of operation of the general activities, and the worth and value of results of the activities in relation to the efficiency and value of instruction.

The board believes that, by diligently exercising these functions, it will be able to provide the best educational opportunities possible for our children within the financial limitations set by the community.

The board shall exercise its powers through the legislation of bylaws and policies for the organization and operation of the school district.

The board shall be responsible for the operation of the school but shall delegate the administration to the superintendent, who shall be appointed by a recorded roll-call majority vote of the full board.

The board may hear appeals in complaints and in grievance and disciplinary actions as defined in these policies and in the law.

ROLE OF THE BOARD (continued)Limits of Authority

All powers of the board of education lie in its actions as a duly constituted quorum acting at a legal meeting of the board. Individual board members lack authority over district affairs.

The board shall make its members, the district staff, and the public aware that only the board, acting as a duly constituted quorum at a legal meeting, has authority to take official actions. All other actions, whether individual or collective, have no legal basis.

The board shall be responsible for the operation of the schools but shall delegate the administrative function to the superintendent, who shall be appointed by a recorded roll call majority vote of the whole number of members of the board. All policies of the board will be enforced by the superintendent who will be responsible to the board of education.

No board member, by virtue of his/her office, shall exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the school district or as an individual command the services of any school employee.

Board Members visiting the schools for any reason shall observe district regulations for all visitors.

The board may hear appeals in complaints, grievance and disciplinary actions as defined in these policies and in the statutes.

Adopted: December 15, 1998, November 18, 2003  
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 Readopted:

Key Words

Boards of Education, Role of the Board

<b><u>Legal References:</u></b>	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:10-1	Constitution of boards of education; conduct of schools; state-operated school district
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:11-1	General mandatory powers and duties
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:12-21 <u>et seq.</u>	<u>School Ethics Act</u>
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:17-15	Appointment of superintendents; terms; apportionment of expense
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:33-1	District to furnish suitable facilities; adoption of courses of study
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:34-1	Textbooks; selection; furnished free with supplies; appropriations
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36-2	Time when schools are open; determination
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:54-20	Powers of board (county vocational schools)
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:4-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Appeals
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:8-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Standards and Assessment
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:28-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	School Ethics Commission
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:23A-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Accountability regulations
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:30-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	School District Operations
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-3.2	Requirements for the Code of Ethics for school board members and charter school board of trustees members

**Possible**

ROLE OF THE BOARD (continued)

<b><u>Cross References:</u></b>	*1000/1010	Concepts and roles in community relations; goals and objectives
	*2000/2010	Concepts and roles in administration; goals and objectives
	*3000/3010	Concepts and roles in business and noninstructional operations; goals and objectives
	4000	Concepts and roles in personnel
	5000	Concepts and roles in student personnel
	6000	Concepts and roles in instruction
	*6140	Curriculum adoption
	*6161.1	Guidelines for evaluation and selection of instructional materials
	7000	Concepts and roles in construction, remodeling and renovation
	*9311	Formulation, adoption, amendment of policies
	*9312	Formulation, adoption, amendment of bylaws
	*9313	Formulation, adoption, amendment of administrative regulations
	*9314	Suspension of policies, bylaws and regulations

\*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.