

SCHOOL BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES

The Mercer County Board of Education 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 staff, who shall be held responsible to the Board for the effective administration and supervision of the entire school system.

The Board, functioning within the framework of laws, court decisions, Attorney General's opinions and similar mandates from the state and national levels of government, and recognizing the authority of the State, fulfills its mission as the governing body of a school district by taking action as follows in the execution of its duties:

1. Select a competent superintendent and support him in the discharge of his duties;
2. Enact policies governing the school system;
3. Approve the budget, financial reports, audits, expenditures, payment of obligations, and policies whereby the administration may formulate procedures, regulations and other guides for the orderly accomplishment of business;
4. Consider recommendations for capital outlay, adopt plans for such improvement, and determine the source of finance;
5. Estimate and seek to provide funds for the operation, support, maintenance, improvement and extension of the school system;
6. Require the establishment and maintenance of records, accounts, archives, management methods and procedures considered essential to the efficient conduct of school business;
7. Adopt a text or a series of textbooks for each subject to be used as the basal text for a period of five years upon the recommendation of the Superintendent with the assistance of a committee composed of teachers from throughout the county;
8. Communicate the needs of the school system to the patrons of the system and the State Legislature;
9. Establish schools, from preschool through high school and to establish post high school programs subject to the approval of the State Board of Education;

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10. Close or consolidate any school or schools which are unnecessary and to assign pupils to other schools;
11. Provide at public expense adequate means of transportation for all children of school age who live more than two miles from school;
12. Employ and provide inservice training for teachers and other personnel recommended by the Superintendent of schools;
13. Act as a court of appeal for school employees and patrons if necessary;
14. Provide at public expense adequate public liability insurance;
15. Set up the school employment and instructional term and school calendar;
16. Set up attendance areas and determine the schools which pupils shall attend;
17. Require and consider periodic reports from the Superintendent relative to the progress of the schools in terms of programs, implementation of Board policies, and student achievement;
18. Determine, based on professional recommendation, changes, extensions, or adjustments in educational programs;
19. The Mercer County Board of Educaiton shall exercise such other authority and perform such duties as may be prescribed by law or by the regulations of the State Board of Education or may be deemed essential for meeting the responsibility specifically delegated to it.

Source: Board of Education Minutes

Date: 2/25/82

Legal Reference: School Laws of West Virginia 18-5