Attorney

The Bethany Board of Education (Board) recognizes that the increasing complexity for school district operations frequently requires procurement of professional legal services. Therefore, the Board shall designate an attorney and/or law firm to provide such services on an ongoing basis. The Bethany Public School District (District) attorney(s) shall be admitted to practice law in Connecticut. The Board reserves the right to obtain legal services outside of its designated attorney/law firm as deemed appropriate.

To ensure the prudent and cost-effective use of legal services, the District will limit and designate the persons with the authority to request services or advice from contracted legal counsel. A decision to seek legal advice or assistance on behalf of the District shall normally be made by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee or Board Chairperson in accordance with Board policy and when a need exists. Legal counsel will not be used unnecessarily to make management decisions or to obtain readily available information such as District policies or administrative regulations.

Legal services required by the District may include, but are not limited to:

1. providing general legal advice to the Board, Superintendent, and/or a designee;
2. assisting with labor negotiations;
3. assisting with personnel matters;
4. assisting with expulsions and other disciplinary matters;
5. conduct and/or assist with pending or actual litigation involving the District;
6. other specialized legal services; and
7. attendance at Board meetings or other activities as deemed appropriate.

The performance of the District attorney(s) shall be subject to evaluation on a continuing basis by the Board and Superintendent. The Board retains the right to terminate the service of any attorney.

Bylaw adopted: September 9, 1991
Bylaw reviewed: February 11, 2004
Bylaw revised: March 10, 2004
Bylaw revised: February 10, 2016
Bylaw revised: April 8, 2020
Bylaw revised: December 14, 2022

Source: CABE