

SCHOOLBOARD -ATTORNEY/LEGAL SERVICES

Code **BDG** Issued **DRAFT/194/06**

~~Purpose: To establish the basic structure for the board's need for and relationship with its attorney.~~
Optional:

Independent Counsel

The ~~increasing~~ complexity of ~~school~~ board operations requires the frequent procurement of legal services. Consequently, the board, by majority vote, may designate an attorneys or law firm to counsel the board and administration on legal matters involving the district's welfare. The board retains the right to counsel with or employ other attorneys and to terminate the service of any attorney.

~~The attorney will serve at the pleasure of the board and will be paid for services rendered.~~

The board may ask the attorney to attend ~~such~~ board meetings or other meetings as may be needed. ~~A decision to seek legal advice or assistance on behalf of the school system may be made by the superintendent or the board. Such action will be taken as consistent with board policy and as it meets an obvious need of the board. It may take place as a consequence of formal board direction. The district will only pay for legal services that are provided in accordance with the board-approved representation agreement or are otherwise authorized by board policy. Except in unusual circumstances, the board will make all communications to the school attorney through the superintendent or board chairman.~~

Optional:

*(if option is selected, add the heading "**Independent Counsel**" at the beginning of this policy)

General Counsel

The superintendent is responsible for selecting and recommending to the board for hire a general counsel to represent the district. The general counsel will report directly to the superintendent and will provide legal guidance and representation to the district and its administration on a broad range of legal issues involving district policies, programs, staff members, and students.

Adopted 11/16/81; Revised 4/24/06, ^