

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE SCHOOL BOARD?

Every local school district is governed by a school board. They are guardians of the public trust and put the interests of their community's youth first. Boards govern through policy and are ultimately responsible for the success or failure of local public education.

HOW ARE SCHOOL BOARDS RUN?

School boards are local governing bodies, meaning they can only take action by a majority vote at a legally called meeting held in public.

WHAT DO THEY DO?

The work of school boards is classified into five major objectives:

- Vision
- Organizational structure
- Accountability
- Support
- Community leadership and advocacy

WHO SERVES ON THE BOARD?

School board members are elected by their community to represent the values, views, and desires for public education in their community. Board members may be appointed in certain circumstances.

Local school boards consist of five to seven representatives from the community. Members are typically not paid.



SCHOOL BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ Establish vision and goals for district schools
 - ✓ Hold meetings in public
 - ✓ Listen and engage with input from families, teachers, students, and the community regarding the district
 - ✓ Communicate with the public regarding the Board's work
 - ✓ Adopt the annual school calendar
 - ✓ Set school/superintendent performance standards
 - ✓ Hire the superintendent (only direct employee of the Board)
 - ✓ Approve contracts for teachers and outside vendors
 - ✓ Approve budgets and spending priorities
 - ✓ Ensure all students have access to high-quality, rigorous education
 - ✓ Approve curriculum and textbooks
 - ✓ Make, review, and govern the district through policies
 - ✓ Advocate for students and the district at the state and federal level
 - ✓ Work closely with school/district leaders on schedules, supplies, safety, discipline, classroom resources, and facilities
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- ✗ School boards do NOT hire faculty
 - ✗ School boards do NOT manage the district
 - ✗ School boards do NOT do the work of the superintendent