

Bylaw

ROLE OF THE MEMBER

It is understood that the members of the Haworth Board of Education have authority only when acting as a board legally in session. The board shall not be bound in any way by any action or statement on the part of any individual board member except when such statement or action is in pursuance of specific instructions from the board.

Members of the board shall adhere to the code of ethics for board members in bylaw 9271.

No board member, by virtue of his/her office, shall exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the schools or as an individual command the services of any school employee. The role of the board member is to contribute his/her informed advice concerning all issues that come before the board in an unbiased and informed manner.

Confidential information to which a board member becomes privy as a result of his/her office shall be used only for the purpose of helping the member discharge his/her responsibilities as board member. No board member shall reveal information contained in a confidential record or received during a duly convened private session of the board except when that information has been released to the public by the board.

It is recommended that board members take an active role in district operations, and as such should see first hand how instruction is being delivered in the classroom. Board members visiting the schools for any reason shall observe district regulations for all visitors.

A board member is entitled to all information that comes before the board so as such board member may be prepared to carry out his/her responsibilities. All information related to personnel shall be considered confidential.

Only the board president is empowered to make public statements concerning the official actions of the board. Such authority will assure that the board communicates a united voice to the public and forestalls any miscommunication or confusion. Board members will refrain from public comment when asked to speak as a board member.

The board shall exercise its powers through the adoption of bylaws and policies for the organization and operation of the school district. The board shall adopt new policies in response to new case law, statute or State Board of Education regulation when appropriate.

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

Board members shall seek advice of the board attorney on any matter that warrants legal interpretation.

Adopted: January 29, 2002
Readopted: June 26, 2007
NJSBA Review/Update: September 2009
Readopted: May 2010

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1 General mandatory powers and duties
N.J.S.A. 18A:12-21 et seq. School Ethics Act
N.J.S.A. 18A:54-20 Powers of board (county vocational schools)

ROLE OF MEMBER (Continued)

N.J.A.C. 6A:28-1.1 et seq. School Ethics Commission

Possible

Cross References: *1250 Visitors
*9020 Public statements
*9271 Code of ethics

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual