

## **Bylaws of the Board**

### **Limits of Authority**

#### **General**

The Board of Education's statutory authority as spelled out in Board policy 9000 is to be exercised collectively by Board of Education members in public meetings of the Board and in committee meetings. Except for specific responsibilities of the Board officers set forth in Board policy 9121, individual members of the Board have no individual authority in district schools, unless carrying out an assignment specifically authorized at a meeting of the Board, but exercise governance as part of the entire Board of Education or of a specifically authorized committee working under specific committee charges from the Board.

#### **Elected Members of the Board of Education**

Members of the Board of Education are expected to represent and balance the educational interests of students in the public schools, district citizens, and the State of Connecticut through:

- advocacy for appropriate educational opportunities for district students;
- regular attendance at Board meetings;
- participation in meeting discussions on issues before the Board;
- suggesting agenda topics to the Board of Education Chairperson;
- regular attendance and fulfilling responsibilities on committees to which they are appointed;
- becoming knowledgeable about Board authority, constraints, and procedures;
- becoming informed about local schools and their educational programs and activities;
- representing the community as part of a representative democratic governmental body;
- understanding and following Board of Education policy.

#### **Non-Voting Student Members of the Board of Education**

Student members of the Board are expected to represent the student body and the Board of Education through:

1. regular attendance at Board meetings
2. participation in meeting discussions of issues before the Board;
3. suggesting agenda topics to the Superintendent of Schools or the Board of Education Chairperson;
4. regular attendance and fulfilling responsibilities on committees to which appointed;
5. becoming knowledgeable about Board authority, constraints, and procedures;

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#### **Non-Voting Student Members of the Board of Education (cont.)**

6. serving as liaisons between the student body, the student council and the Board of Education;
7. understanding and following Board of Education policy.

Bylaw adopted by the Board:

February 10, 2005  
January 14, 2021

NEW LONDON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
New London, Connecticut