

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
POWERS AND DUTIES**

The Bethel Board of Education shall have the power to:

1. Elect its own officers: President, Vice-President, Clerk, and shall appoint an Encumbrance Clerk and a Minutes Clerk and in its discretion, a Deputy Clerk. The board may appoint one person as Encumbrance/Minutes Clerk.
2. Make rules, not inconsistent with the law or rules of the State Board of Education, governing the board and the school system of this district.
3. Maintain and operate a complete public school system of such character as the board of education shall deem best suited to the needs of the school district.
4. Designate the schools to be attended by the children of the district.
5. Provide and operate, when deemed advisable, cafeterias or other eating accommodations, thrift banks or other facilities for the teaching and practice of thrift and economy, book stores, print shops, and vocational and other shops.
6. Provide informational material concerning school bond elections and millage elections, including but not limited to all pertinent financial information relative to the bond issue, a statement of revenue sources necessary to retire proposed bonds, a statement of current bonded indebtedness of the school district, and a statement of proposed use of funds to be generated by the proposed bond issue. The informational material shall not contain the words "vote yes" or "vote no" or any similar words or statement any place on such informational material.
7. Purchase, construct or rent, and operate and maintain classrooms, libraries, auditoriums, gymnasiums, stadiums, recreation places and playgrounds, teacherages, school bus garages, laboratories, administration buildings and other schoolhouses and school buildings, and acquire sites and equipment therefor.
8. Have school district or its employees' property insured.
9. Acquire property by condemnation proceedings in the same manner as land is condemned for railroad purposes. School district funds may be used to erect buildings on leased land on which other buildings have been erected prior to April 3, 1969, or on land which is leased from a governmental entity.
10. Lease real or personal property to the state or any political subdivision thereof or a not-for-profit entity operating pursuant to state law for nominal cash consideration for so long as the use of the property by the lessee substantially benefits, in whole or in part, the same public served by the school district.
11. Dispose of personal or real property no longer needed by the district by sale, exchange, lease, lease-purchase, and partial lease back, or otherwise as prescribed by state law.
12. Purchase necessary property, equipment, furniture, and supplies necessary to maintain and operate an adequate school system.

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13. Incur all expenses, within the limitations provided for by law, necessary to perform all powers granted by law.
14. Contract with and fix the duties and compensation of physicians, dentists, optometrists, nurses, attorneys, superintendents, principals, teachers, bus drivers, janitors, and other necessary employees of the district.
15. Establish a written policy for reimbursement of necessary travel expenses of employees and members of the board. The policy may include in-district travel from the site of employment assignment which is necessary in the performance of employment duties. The written policy shall specify procedures, contain documentation requirements, and may include payment of meal expenses during authorized travel on a per diem allowance basis rather than itemized documentation.
16. Pay necessary travel expenses and other related expenses of prospective employees for sponsored visits to the school district pursuant to a written policy specifying procedures containing documentation requirements equal to or greater than the requirements specified by law for state employees in the State Travel Reimbursement Act.
17. Provide for employees' leaves of absence without pay.
18. Exercise sole control over all of the schools and property of this district, subject to other provisions of the Oklahoma School Code.
19. Allow district-owned school buses to be used for transportation of students from other districts or educational institutions while within the district on educational tours. This shall not restrict the authority of the board to authorize any other use of such buses which may now be permitted by law or rule of the State Board of Education.
20. Enter into contractual agreements with the board of trustees of a multicounty library system, a city-county library commission, or a rural single county library system, as defined by state law, on such terms as may be mutually agreed, except no district board of education may enter into any agreement under which the library services for the school would be provided at any site other than the school site or which would result in library services that do not meet accreditation standards as required by law or rule.
21. Perform all functions necessary to the administration of a school district in Oklahoma as specified in the Oklahoma School Code, in addition to those powers necessarily implied but not delegated by law to any other agency or official.
22. Prepare and distribute at the expense of the school district any and all material which has the purpose of informing the public about district activities.
23. Solicit and accept any gift, grant, or donation of money or property for the use of the school district. Any gift, grant, or donation of money may be deposited in the general fund or building fund of the school district.

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24. Pay necessary meal and lodging expenses of school district students and sponsors involved in authorized school-sponsored cocurricular activities. The board shall establish a written policy for reimbursement of necessary meal and lodging expenses of school district students and sponsors. The written policy shall specify procedures, contain documentation requirements, and designate the funds from which reimbursement may be made. Reimbursement may be made from the general fund.
25. Adopt and maintain on file in the office of the superintendent of schools an appropriate personnel policy and sick leave guide for all teachers employed. The guide shall be made available to the public.
26. Exercise complete control over all funds on hand or hereafter received or collected from all school activities conducted in this school district.
27. Provide for an annual audit of all such school activity funds. The original reports of such audit shall be delivered to the board, and a copy thereof shall be furnished to the treasurer of the school district.
28. Rent the gymnasium, auditorium, or cafeteria.
29. Cause all school funds to be audited annually.

A board member shall not be considered to be directly or indirectly interested in any contract with a company, individual, or business concern that employs such board member or the spouse of the board member if the board member or the spouse of the board member has an interest of five percent (5%) or less in the company, individual, or business concern.

The superintendent of schools is the executive officer of the board and shall carry out all policies adopted by the board.

REFERENCE: 21 O.S. §355
26 O.S. §13A-105
62 O.S. §371
70 O.S. §1-117, §5-105, §5-107B, §5-117, §5-119, §5-124, §5-134