

SCHOOL BOARD AUTHORITY

The School Board is a legal body created by the statutes of the State of New Hampshire. Its members are state officials receiving their responsibilities and powers through state laws.

Board members have no authority over school affairs as individuals. They have complete authority, within state law, over school affairs when they serve as a legal body.

Members of the Board shall have authority only when acting as a board legally in session. The Board shall not be bound in any way by any statement or action on the part of an individual member except when such statement or action is in pursuance of specific instruction of the Board.

The Board is, in practice, primarily a policy making body. Although legally authorized to administer policy, the Board delegates this function to an officer of the Board- the Superintendent of Schools.

Delegating the administrative function makes the Board responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of the execution of Board policies. Evaluation by the Board requires a continuous appraisal of the results of its educational policies as well as the effectiveness of the general administration.