

SCHOOL BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES

The powers and duties of the Board of Education are derived from the New York State Constitution and the laws of the State of New York, particularly the Education Law.

Among the various powers and duties therein enumerated are those that may be characterized as:

1. personnel functions, including the appointment and removal of personnel, the adoption of salary schedules, the negotiation of collective bargaining agreements, and the determination of the number of employees in the district;
2. instructional program functions, including the approval of courses and curriculum and the selection of textbooks and equipment;
3. financial functions, including the approval and adoption of an annual budget, proposed bond issues, and the audit of school district accounts and business procedures; and
4. school plant functions, including decisions concerning the construction, renovation, and maintenance of buildings, and selection of school sites.

The most important of the powers and duties of a school board is its legislative power in regard to the educational affairs of the district. The Board establishes policy regarding all aspects of school district operations, limited only by law, regulation and contractual obligations. Critical to the exercise of its powers is the Board's power to appoint a Superintendent of Schools who, as chief executive officer, is delegated the responsibility for implementing Board policy and the day-to-day administration of the district.

Ref: Education Law §§1604; 1604-a; 1701; 1708; 1709; 1710

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