

POLICY: BBA  
Approved: December 19, 1972  
Reviewed: December 21, 1981  
Revised: October 1, 2001  
Revised: March 19, 2012

## **SCHOOL BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES**

The Board of Education (hereafter referred to as the Board) is a legal body created by the statutes of the State of Wisconsin. Its members receive their responsibilities and powers through state law.

The Board is, in practice, primarily a policy making body. Although legally authorized to administer policy, the Board generally delegates this function to an officer of the Board – the District Administrator 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.

The Board shall act as the general agent of the state in carrying out the will of the people of its district in the matter of public education. It shall be responsible and accept or reject the provisions of the permissive laws. In all cases where the state laws do not provide or prohibit, the Board shall consider itself the agent responsible for establishing and appraising the educational activities.

The duties of the board shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Interpretation of the needs and desires of the community in educational matters to its professional staff.
2. Appointment of a District Administrator and approval of the appointment of his/her administrative staff.
3. Approval of an annual budget, prepared by the District Administrator or designee before its presentation to the annual meeting as provided in the school board policies.
4. Presentation to the school district voters at the annual meeting statements of need with supporting data for new school facilities, alterations and extensions of existing facilities and capital budget expenditures.
5. Approval of preliminary and final plans and specifications for all new buildings and additions and of school sites.
6. Determination of the compensation and salary schedules of all employees of the Board of Education.

7. Provision for keeping the public informed of the purposes, needs and conditions of education in Hartford.
8. Evaluation of the programs of the school and appraisal of the efficiency of executive personnel.
9. Formulation and approval of policies for the organization and improvement of public education in Hartford.
10. Take necessary reasonable actions to promote the cause of education, including establishing, providing and improving District programs, functions and activities for the benefit of students.
11. Consideration of specific actions recommended by the District Administrator.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Wis. Statutes, Chapter 120, Subchapter I  
Section 118.001  
Wis. Constitution, Article X, Section 3  
Wis. Statutes Section Chapter 120, Subchapter I  
120.10 Annual Meeting  
Section 120.12 – School Board Duties  
Section 120.13 – School Board Powers

CROSS REFERENCE: BBB, School Board Member Authority and Responsibilities  
BCD, Board-Administrator Relations