

## **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.

Because all powers of the Board of Education lie in its action as committee of the whole, individual Board members exercise their authority over district affairs only as they vote to take action at a legal meeting of the Board.

An individual board member, including the chairperson, shall have power only when the Board, by vote, has delegated authority to him or her.

Only the Board has authority to take official action.

#### **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:

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

(cf. 1312 Public Complaints)

(cf. 4118.21 Academic Freedom)

(cf. 5145.2 Freedom of Speech/Expression)

(cf. 6144 Controversial Issues)

(cf. 9000 Role of Board Members)

Bylaw readopted

by the board: 3/7/90

REVIEWED/REVISED – 5/17/17

BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Brookfield, Connecticut