

INTERNAL BOARD POLICIES

Purpose and Role of the Board

The Authority of the Board of Trustees

1. The Board of Trustees has the power to contract for goods and to employ services necessary for the operation of the various schools of the District.
2. It has the power to be sued and to sue, and to hold and convey property for the use and benefit of the School District.
3. It has the power of calling or causing to call the elections for certain purposes among the voters of the School District.
4. It has the power of eminent domain.
5. It has the power of making rules and regulations for the operation of the schools of the School District; but normally, delegates that power to the Superintendent, retaining the right to review rules and regulations for harmony with Board policies.
6. It has the power of being fiscally independent or of causing taxes to be levied for the support of the schools in the School District.
7. It has the power of establishing its own procedures.
8. It has the responsibility of determining the educational program of the School District.
9. It has the power of appraising and reviewing its actions and policies and is responsible for the work of various employees of the School District.
10. It has broad, but clearly limited, powers. The exercise of its authority is restricted to the functions required or permitted by law and then only when it acts in a legally constituted meeting.
11. The Board of Trustees is the unit of authority. Apart from his/her normal function as a part of the unit, the member has no individual authority. Individually, the member may not commit the District to any policy, act, or expenditure. The member cannot do business with the District he serves, nor should the member have an interest in any contract with school districts in general. The member does not represent any factional segment of the community, but is rather a part of the body which represents and acts for the community as a whole.
12. Generally the clerk of the Board signs all legal documents.

Legal Reference: California Education Code
35010-35149. School District Governing Boards
35161-32350. Powers and Duties of School District Governing Boards

Policy Adopted: January 10, 1974
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