

## **Board Powers and Duties**

The Board is responsible for the establishment and operation of the local public schools. Its powers and duties arise from, are described in and limited to the provisions of Oregon law, State Board of Education rules and regulations, the rulings of the courts and the will of the patrons of the district.

It is the policy of the Board to exercise those powers granted to it and to carry out those duties assigned it by Oregon statutes and rules, as may best meet the needs of the students and the citizens of the district.

### Powers of the Board

1. **Policy Making** - In regular or special public meetings, after open discussion and after the votes of its members are taken on the record, the Board will establish rules or policy to govern the conduct of its members and the proceedings of the Board. The Board will establish rules for governing schools and students consistent with the rules of the State Board of Education and with local, state and federal laws. The Board is responsible for providing adequate and direct means for keeping itself informed about the needs and wishes of the public and for keeping local citizens informed about the schools.
2. **Executive** - In carrying out the legislative and policy making responsibility, the Board shall appoint a superintendent as the executive officer and delegate the administrative and executive functions to that superintendent. The Board retains full legislative and judicial authority over the district in accordance with the existing school laws and the expressed will of the electorate but authorizes and delegates the superintendent to act within the law, policies, rules, regulations and philosophy approved by the Board to develop regulations and procedures to put policies and plans into operation. The Board will evaluate the superintendent in the performance of his or her duties. The planning for educational development shall be the responsibility of the superintendent.
3. **Appraisal or Evaluation** - The Board, through careful consideration of staff, student and community input, seeks to determine the effectiveness of school and system operations and the quality of the educational program in terms of objectives stated in the District Improvement Plan. In addition, working through the superintendent, the Board has the right to review decisions and actions of district employees and the power to veto acts of any or all employees when such acts are deemed contrary to the legal rights and obligations of the district or inconsistent with the established Board policies.
4. **Judicial** - The Board has the responsibility for making judgments regarding the protection of the rights of individuals and for the proper administration of the policies and programs of the district so that they are in keeping with Oregon law and the constitutional rights of citizens. The Board acts as a court of appeal for teachers, principals, supervisors, classified staff, patrons and students as needed.

## Duties of the Board

1. Set an educational vision, working closely with the superintendent, staff and community.
2. Ensure that the structures are in place to reach this educational vision, including appropriate policies, plans, financial priorities, staff, facilities and a positive environment for education. Employ a superintendent/clerk to administer policies and rules adopted by the Board and to support the superintendent in the administration of such policies, rules and appointments.

Request, consider and act upon the recommendations of the superintendent in all matters of policy, appointment or dismissal of employees or other personnel regulations, courses of study, election of textbooks or other matters pertaining to the welfare of the students or staff members.

Oversee the financial affairs of the district by authorizing and approving budgets, proposing bond elections to provide for maintenance or acquisition of district property, authorize and approve payment of all contracts and business transactions and provide for an annual audit of the district's assets.

Appoint lay members, as provided by law, to form a budget committee for the purpose of preparing a financial budget for the district.

Set dates for school bond elections and approve all expenses related to the election.

Direct the collective bargaining process to establish labor contracts with the district's personnel.

The Board will establish, through the collective bargaining process where appropriate, salaries and salary schedules, other terms and conditions of employment and personnel policies for districtwide application.

Fix the days of the year and the hours of the day when school will be in session.

3. Ensure that high standards are in place that relate to the community's vision, that **accountability** systems and assessment practices are effective and that strategies for educational improvement can be formed based on the assessments.
4. Serve as advocates for children, building support for children and education in the community and assist in presenting to the public the goals and needs of the educational system and to adopt a budget which will satisfy these needs.

Visit and inspect the school from time to time.

Hear communications, written or oral, from citizens and organizations on matters of administration policy and rules.

END OF POLICY

**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 192.630](#)

[ORS 243.656](#)

[ORS Chapter 279](#)

[ORS 294.305 - 294.565](#)

[ORS 294.321](#)

[ORS 294.326](#)

[ORS 332.072 - 332.111](#)

[ORS 332.505](#)

[ORS 336.035](#)

[ORS 336.095](#)

[ORS Chapter 339](#)

[ORS 342.905](#)