

Dufur School District 29

Code: **BBAA**
Adopted: 9/03/96
Readopted: 12/02/13
Orig. Code(s): BBAA

Individual Board Member's Authority and Responsibilities

Members of the Board have authority over district matters only when acting as a Board legally in session. Members have no legal authority acting individually and the Board is in no way bound by any word or action of any individual member except when such word or action is in pursuance of specific instructions of the Board.

Any Board member may request a legal opinion. Such request, however, shall be made through the Board chair to the superintendent. If the legal opinion sought involves the superintendent's employment or performance, the request should be made to the Board chair. Legal counsel is responsible to the Board.

The duties and obligations of an individual Board member include the following:

1. To familiarize himself/herself with the state school laws, administrative rules of the Oregon Board of Education and policies, rules and regulations of the district;
2. To have general knowledge of educational aims and objectives of the school system;
3. To work harmoniously with the other Board members without trying either to dominate the Board or to neglect his/her share of the work;
4. To vote and act in the Board meetings impartially for the good of the district without subordinating the education of students to partisan interests;
5. To have the courage of his/her convictions and vote his/her beliefs, accepting the will of the majority in all cases as the policy of the entire Board, giving wholehearted support to such policy until such time as the policy may be changed by a vote of the Board;
6. To attend all meetings, discuss items presented on the agenda, suggest other items for consideration and vote upon motions and resolutions presented;
7. To excuse himself/herself as a Board member from discussion of and voting on matters that come before the Board in which the member has great personal involvement;
8. To present the Board and the district to the public in such a way as to promote both interest and support;
9. To refer complaints to the superintendent for action and to refrain from individual counsel and action;

10. To be willing to make sacrifices of his/her time, knowledge and personal pleasure for the benefit of the district.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.045](#)

[ORS 332.055](#)

[ORS 332.057](#)

[ORS 332.075](#)

38 OR. ATTY. GEN. OP. 1995 (1978)

S. Benton Educ. Ass'n v. Monroe Union High Sch. Dist., 83 Or. App. 425 (1987).

Cross Reference(s):

BHD - Board Member Compensation and Expense Reimbursement

DFEA - Admissions to District Events