

#9200

School Board Legal Status

The Constitution of Connecticut assigns to locally elected boards of education control of the public schools in their districts. The general assembly has provided by law, for the organization of school districts, the composition of district Boards, and the election of school Board members.

Therefore, local school Boards are legal instruments of the state and derive their powers from the state constitution and acts of the general assembly. They also have responsibilities to the local citizenry they serve and by whom they are elected.

The district is governed by a Board of Education consisting of nine elected Board members, each of whom is elected, from within district boundaries, for a four-year term, except those members who have received interim appointments to unexpired terms.

Legal Status

The legal name of the school district is the Madison Public Schools in the County of New Haven, in the state of Connecticut. It is a corporate body under the laws of the State of Connecticut. The district is governed by the laws of the State of Connecticut relating to such districts and by the policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Education in pursuance to such state laws, and in accordance with instructions of the State Commissioner of Education.

In no event will such policies and procedures be, or be construed to have been, adopted by reference to legislative or judicial pronouncements or to statements contained in applications for membership or policy positions of organizations in which the school district has been, is, or will become a member.

Governance

The Board will possess powers delegated and required by law. The Board will also be governed by both written bylaws and policies consistent with the directions and regulations of the State Board of Education.

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In order to achieve its primary goal of providing each child with the necessary skills, commensurate with his / her ability, to become effective citizens, the Board will exercise the full authority granted to it by the laws of the state. Its legal powers, duties and responsibilities are derived from statute and regulation. Sources such as the school code, Attorney General's opinions, and regulations of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction delineate the legal powers, duties and responsibilities of the Board of Education.

Date of Adoption: 3/7/95