

A POLICY STATEMENT OF
THE HANCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
New Cumberland, West Virginia 26047

SCHOOL BOARD POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Hancock County Board of Education was created by the West Virginia Legislature and its authority is delegated accordingly. The Board performs only those acts for which authority has been delegated. This authority may be expressly stated or implied in statutes or established through regulations of the West Virginia Board of Education.

The powers are delegated to the Board as a body. No authority is granted Board members acting as individuals, except when actions are taken pursuant to specific instructions of the Board.

Board of Education members have no authority over school affairs as individuals. They have complete authority, within state law, over affairs when they serve as a legal body.

The Board is primarily a policy-making body. The Board delegates the administrative functions to an officer of the Board, the county Superintendent of Schools.

The Board, functioning within the framework of laws, court decisions, Attorney General's opinions, county counsel opinions, and similar mandates from the state and national level of government, and recognizing the authority of the state, fulfills its mission as the governing body of a political subdivision by acting as follows in the execution of its duties, which shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

1. Enacts policy governing the school district;
2. Appoints the Superintendent of Schools and acts on the recommendation of the Superintendent for the appointment of her/his administrative staff and all other persons to be employed;
3. Annually sets goals for the Board and the Superintendent and annually evaluates each;
4. Approves courses of study, curriculum, and textbook adoptions;
5. Approves the budget, financial reports, audits, major expenditures, payment of obligations, and policies whereby the administration may formulate procedures, regulations, and other guides for the orderly accomplishment of business;
6. Approves the planning, expansion, improvement, financing, construction, maintenance, use and disposition of the physical facilities of the school district;
7. Estimates and provide funds for the operation, support, maintenance, improvement, extension of the school district;
8. Requires the establishment and maintenance of records, accounts, inventories, management methods, and procedures considered essential to the efficient conduct of school business;
9. Establishes schools, from pre-school through high school, and establishes post-high school programs subject to the approval of the West Virginia Board of Education;
10. Closes or consolidates any school or schools which are unnecessary and assign students to other schools;
11. Provides, at public expense, adequate means of transportation for all children of school age who live more than two (2) miles from school;
12. Employs professional and service personnel as recommended by the Superintendent;

13. Provides in-service for professional and service personnel;
14. Provides adequate liability insurance at public expense;
15. Approves employment and set salary schedules;
16. Establishes attendance areas and determine the schools which students shall attend; and
17. Exercises such other authority and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law or by the regulations of the West Virginia Board of Education.

It is the Board as a whole rather than to individual members that the law assigns powers, duties, and responsibilities. Thus, Board members have authority only when acting as a Board legally in session. The Board shall not be bound in any way by any statement or action taken on the part of any individual Board member or employee, except when such statement or action is made on specific instruction of the Board.

Date Adopted: 9/25/1972
Date Amended: 7/1/85; 9/11/95; 11/13/00; 2/11/08; 4/8/13; 12/14/15; 3/14/16
Date Reviewed:

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The above Policy Statement is an integral part of the official Policy Manual of this Board of Education as of the date shown adopted.