

BOARD MEMBER AUTHORITY

Members of the Board of Education have legal authority for the conduct of the district schools only when acting as a body, by majority vote, in a properly convened session.

Board members acting as individuals have no authority over school affairs or school personnel. Since the Board is a corporate body, authority lies with the Board as a whole. Individual members or standing committees are not given representative authority of acting or speaking for the Board, unless the Board, through adopted policy or by majority vote, has delegated this authority to the individual member. Reports of special committees and reports of appointed representatives shall be subject to the approval of the entire Board.

Members of the Board are free to speak as individuals on issues related to school affairs, but when doing so are expected to communicate clearly that any such expression represents their own individual view and not the view of the Board.

Ref: Education Law §§1604; 1701; 1708; 1709; 1710
General Municipal Law §805-a
Matter of Bruno, 4 EDR 14 (1964)

Note: Prior policy, Rules and Regulations of the Board of Education (Article II), revised

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