

File: BBAA

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER AUTHORITY AND DUTIES

Authority

All powers of the School Committee, derived from state laws, are granted in terms of action as a group.

Individual School Committee members have authority only when acting as part of the Committee legally in session.

All policy decisions and other matters will be settled by an official vote of the Committee sitting in formal session.

The School Committee will not be bound, in any way, by any statement or action of an individual member, except when such statement or action is a result of specific instructions of the Committee.

No member of the Committee, by virtue of his/her office, will exercise any administrative responsibility or command the services of any school employee.

Duties

The duties and obligations of an individual Committee member are:

1. To become familiar with the General Laws of the Commonwealth relating to education and School Committee operations, the regulations of the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the policies and procedures of the Sharon School Committee and school department,
2. To have a general knowledge of the goals and programs of the school department,
3. To keep informed about new laws and the latest trends in education,
4. To vote and act in Committee impartially for the good of the students,
5. To remember that he/she is one member of a team and must accept, abide by, and carry out, all Committee decisions once they are made,
6. To represent the Committee and the school department to the public in a manner that promotes interest in and support of the school system,
7. To respect the privileged communication that exists in executive sessions by maintaining strict confidentiality on matters discussed in these sessions, except for that which has become part of the public record,
8. To comply with the laws and regulations governing the ethical conduct of School Committee members,
9. To refer questions and complaints to the proper authorities, and
10. To work in a respectful manner with other Committee members.

Legal Ref.: M.G.L. 268A, Conduct of Public Officials and Employees

Revised: March 30, 2011