



### SCHOOL COMMITTEE POWERS AND DUTIES

The State delegates much of its authority to the local School Committee, holding it responsible for the performance of all duties mandated by the state, and for meeting the needs of its communities of Lincoln, Hanscom Air Force Base and Boston-Lincoln METCO.

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The School Committee is the local governing body responsible both to the State and to its local constituencies for operating the public schools.

The School Committee takes a broad view of its functions:

1. Policymaking and Appraisal: ~~The Committee, in partnership with the administration, is responsible for the development and adoption of the district's long-range strategic plan and the establishment of annual priorities. is responsible for the development of policy as guides for administrative action.~~  
Policies will be in written form and will be continually reviewed and revised when necessary. In its adoption of these policies, the Committee will consider the attitudes and aspirations of the communities it serves. The Committee is responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of its policies and their implementation.
2. Educational Planning: The Committee is responsible for establishing educational goals and policies that will guide the Committee and the administration in continued improvement of the educational programs provided by the Lincoln Public Schools. The School Committee is responsible for adoption of annual district goals to promote and foster the implementation of its policies. The responsibility for the implementation of policies and the achievement of annual goals is delegated to the Superintendent of Schools.
3. Provision of Financial Resources: The Committee is responsible for adoption of a budget that will enable the school system to carry out the Committee's policies.
4. Hiring and Evaluation of the Superintendent: The Committee is responsible for the hiring of the superintendent, and for the evaluation of the superintendent in accordance with state laws.
5. Public Relations: The Committee is responsible for providing adequate and direct means for keeping the local citizenry informed about the schools and for keeping itself and the school administration informed about ~~feedback and input from the needs and wishes of the public.~~

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Legal Reference: Ch. 41, Sec. 1; Ch. 71, Sec. 37  
Cross Reference: [BB, School Committee Legal Status](#)

Approved at School Committee Meeting of June 14, 1982.  
Reaffirmed at School Committee Meeting of December 17, 1984  
Revised at School Committee Meeting of November 13, 1989  
Revised at School Committee Meeting of

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**File: BBA (MASC)**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE POWERS AND DUTIES**

The School Committee has all the powers conferred upon it by state law and must perform those duties mandated by the state. These include the responsibility and right to determine policies and practices and to employ a staff to implement its directions for the proper education of the children of the community.

The Committee takes a broad view of its functions. It sees them as:

1. **Legislative or policymaking.** The Committee is responsible for the development of policy as guides for administrative action and for employing a Superintendent who will implement its policies.
2. **Appraisal.** The Committee is responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of its policies and their implementation.
3. **Provision of financial resources.** The Committee is responsible for adoption of a budget that will enable the school system to carry out the Committee's policies.
4. **Public relations.** The Committee is responsible for providing adequate and direct means for keeping the local citizenry informed about the schools and for keeping itself and the school staff informed about the needs and wishes of the public.
5. **Educational planning and evaluation.** The Committee is responsible for establishing educational goals and policies that will guide the Committee and staff for the administration and continuing improvement of the educational programs provided by the School District.

SOURCE: MASC

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. [71:37](#) specifically, but powers and duties of School Committees are established throughout the Massachusetts General Laws.

CROSS REF.: [BB](#), School Committee Legal Status

**NOTE: It is sometimes useful to include as an exhibit document coded BBA-E a fairly detailed listing of powers and duties assigned by state law. In addition to the legal reference cited above, regional school districts should add references to M.G.L. 71:16 through 71:16I. A reference to an appropriate section(s) of regional agreement could also be added.**



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### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE POWERS AND DUTIES**

The State delegates much of its authority to the local School Committee, holding it responsible through the elective process for meeting the needs of its communities of Lincoln, Hanscom Air Force Base and Boston-Lincoln METCO.

The School Committee is the local governing body responsible both to the State and to its local constituencies for operating the public schools.

The School Committee sets philosophy, makes policy and determines goals and priorities, and chooses a Superintendent. Policies will be in written form and will be continually reviewed and revised when necessary. In its adoption of these policies, the Committee will consider the attitudes and aspirations of the communities it serves.

The School Committee must provide effective administration, an excellent teaching staff and an environment conducive to learning. The School Committee is responsible for adoption of annual goals to promote and foster the implementation of its policies. The responsibility for the implementation of policies and the achievement of annual goals is delegated to the Superintendent of Schools.

The School Committee is responsible for the evaluation of the school program to ensure that it reflects adopted policies and goals. The results of those evaluations will be reported to the communities on a regular basis.

Legal Reference: Ch. 41, Sec. 1; Ch. 71, Sec. 37

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