



LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Lincoln, Massachusetts

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**DRAFT**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE LEGAL STATUS**

The School Committees is a state agency and, as such, is subject to laws enacted by the legislature, to policies authorized by the State Board of Education and to regulations mandated by the State Department of Education. Within those limitations, the School Committee operates autonomously, with the sole authority to guide the educational process. The School Committee should nevertheless strive to work cooperatively with the other town boards and officials to ensure that the educational program reflects the values of the town residents and represents the wise use of town resources.

Legal Ref: Ch. 40, Sec. 1; Ch 41, Sec. 1

Approved at School Committee Meeting of June 14, 1982  
Reaffirmed at School Committee Meeting of December 17, 1984  
Reaffirmed at School Committee Meeting of October 30, 1989  
Revised at School Committee Meeting of October 11, 2018

**From the MASC Policy Manual:**

**File: BB - SCHOOL COMMITTEE LEGAL STATUS**

The School Committee is the governing board of the town's public school system. Although it functions as a duly elected Committee of town government, the School Committee has, unlike other town boards, autonomous and absolute authority within limitations established by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to carry out the educational policies of the state and guide the educational process.

Established by law

SOURCE: MASC

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. [41:1](#) and [71:37](#) specifically, but powers and duties of School Committees are established throughout the General Laws of Massachusetts Relating to School Committees

CROSS REFS.: [AA](#), School District Legal Status

[BBA](#), School Committee Powers and Duties

**NOTE: A statement under this code is usually statutory and informational in nature, not a "policy" in the strict sense of the word. Include under this code the number of School Committee members and the length of a regular term.**

**Town or city charters and ordinances often establish the composition of the School Committee and set forth provisions for the election of Committee members. Such details should be incorporated into a statement in this category. References to the pertinent section(s) of the charter or ordinances should be added to the legal references as was done with the policy above.**



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