

NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BLOCK ISLAND SCHOOL

School Committee power is corporate power. Authority to exercise it rests with the School Committee as a whole and not with an individual member or any group of members in the committee. No member of the School Committee as an individual has the right to exercise the authority of the School Committee. A School Committee member has authority only when meeting with the full School Committee, unless specifically delegated authority to act on behalf of the School Committee.

The School Committee operates at the policy-making level, leaving the administration of that policy to its Superintendent, thus freeing itself for major considerations and decisions. School Committee policies are statements that set forth the purposes and prescribe in general terms the organization and program of the New Shoreham School District. They create a framework within which the Superintendent and his/her staff can discharge his/her assigned duties with positive direction. Essentially, they tell what is wanted and they may also indicate why and how much.

However, specific directions, giving precise details on how, by whom, where and when things are to be done, come under the category of rules and regulations.

This distinction between policy and rules and regulations does not imply that policy should deal only with abstract expressions of theory and philosophy. On the contrary, statements of policy should spell out quite clearly what the School Committee intends. The clearer the statement of policy, the clearer the directions are to be taken by the administration

The School Committee operates under the General Laws of Rhode Island, as amended, the New Shoreham Town Charter, as amended, and the New Shoreham School Committee Bylaws, as amended. Specific statutes that detail the powers, duties and management principals of the School Committee, and included herein by reference, are: § 16-2-9 General powers and duties of school committees, and § 16-2-9.1 Code of basic management principles and ethical school standards.

Adopted: 9/20/99; Revised: 12/17/2012

*New Shoreham School District, Block Island School*