

## **Barrington Public School Policy: School Committee Authority, Legal Status, and Duties**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the authority, legal status and statutory duties of the Barrington Public Schools (BPS) School Committee. In accordance with law, the responsibility for the general administration and supervision of the District is vested in the School Committee. School Committee members collectively constitute an agency of government whose powers, responsibilities, and duties can only be exercised by the action of the School Committee. An individual School Committee member, including the Chairperson, shall have only such power and authority as delegated by the School Committee.

The School Committee shall interact with the Administration of the District solely through the Superintendent, in accordance with law.

The legal status of the School Committee is derived from Article XII, Section 1 of the Constitution of the State of Rhode Island. The Rhode Island General Assembly is responsible for the exercise of plenary control over educational matters within the state, and delegates certain authority and responsibility to the local School Committee.

The School Committee's duty is to identify and set policy for the effective administration, operation, and maintenance of the School Department. The School Committee shall have such power as granted by law to implement and enforce such policies.

The School Committee shall formulate and adopt appropriate policies pertaining to the administration, curriculum, and program of the School Department and the relationship of the School Department with students, parents, and the public as the primary responsibility and function of the School Committee.

The formal adoption of policies will be recorded in the minutes of the School Committee. Only those written statements so adopted and so recorded shall be deemed as added to official School Committee policy.

The School Committee shall regularly review the implementation of policy through reports, presentations, or such other methods as may adequately inform the School Committee.

### **Legal Reference**

Rhode Island General Laws §16-2-9, 16-2-15, 16-2-16, 16-2-18, 16-2-1 et. seq.

Barrington Town Charter § 9-2-1, 9-2-5, 9-2-6, 9-2-7

Rhode Island State Constitution, Article XII, §1

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