

## **Barrington Public Schools New School Committee Member Orientation Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to define the orientation process for all new Barrington Public Schools (BPS) School Committee members. The School Committee and the Superintendent shall assist every new member to understand the Committee's functions, policies and procedures as soon as is possible after their election.

Every new member shall be given or provided direct electronic access to the following materials:

1. A copy of the School Committee's Governing Principles and Standards;
2. A copy of the School Committee Policy Manual;
3. A copy of the Open Meetings Act and Attorney General's Guide to Open Government in Rhode Island ([www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov)) ;
4. A copy of the Ethics/Conflict of Interest Regulations ([www.ethics.ri.gov](http://www.ethics.ri.gov));
5. A copy of the Barrington Public Schools annual Operating Budget;
6. Collective bargaining agreements and contracts; and
7. Student and staff handbooks.

Every new member shall also receive any other materials as determined by the Chair and/or the Superintendent.

BPS will provide local training from legal counsel and Administration regarding open meetings laws, and other topics such as policies, communications, procedures, and protocols relevant to the onboarding of new school committee members.

In accordance with the requirements of the law, School Committee members are required to annually undertake six (6) hours of professional development administered by the Rhode Island Association of School Committees (RIASC).

New members should be advised that they are also members of the RIASC. BPS requires members to utilize the services and resources RIASC provides by attending meetings or workshops specifically designed for new members.

Legal References:

Rhode Island General Laws Section 16-2. School Committees and Superintendents

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