

Bylaws of the Board

Role of the Board and Members (Powers, Purposes, Duties)

The Board of Education is the governing body of the school district and derives its power and exists under the Constitution and General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, the regulations of the Connecticut State Board of Education, and the Charter of the Town of Ledyard.

General Powers of the Board

1. The Ledyard Board of Education represents the citizens of the Town of Ledyard in carrying out the mandates of the Connecticut General Statutes regarding public education.
2. The Board shall be the legislative body which determines all questions of general policy to be employed in the conduct of the Ledyard Public Schools.
3. In determining District policy, the Board shall:
 1. Hear and consider facts and recommendations,
 2. Adopt a plan, policy or course of action, and
 3. Authorize the Superintendent of Schools, the Board's Executive Officer, to carry out its legislation and/or policy decisions.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Board

1. Understand that the Board's first and greatest concern is the educational welfare of the students, and that all Board decisions must be based on this understanding.
2. Provide leadership in order that the goals and objectives of the school system, as set forth by the Board, can be effectively carried out.
3. Hire a Superintendent of Schools, and evaluate the Superintendent in accordance with State statute.
4. Consider and adopt an annual budget.
5. Establish policy for employment, promotion, evaluation and dismissal of personnel in accordance with State statutes.
6. Initiate and approve the acquisition and disposition of school sites, and initiate and approve plans for school buildings.
7. Consider specific recommendations made by the Superintendent.
8. Communicate the educational programs of the District to the citizens of the community.
9. Consider and adopt changes in the curriculum.
10. Evaluate the Board's performance in relation to its goals, and to establish and clarify policies based upon the results of such evaluation.
11. Render all decisions based solely on judgment of the available facts and not surrender that judgment to individuals, special interests, or personal agendas.
12. To take other actions required by law.
13. Perform all Board functions and operations in conformity with State, Federal and local laws, rules and regulations.

Duties and Responsibilities of Board Members

The Ledyard Board of Education shall make every effort to sustain a high level of professionalism in the school system. In order to maintain appropriate standards, it is essential that individual Board members exhibit civility, integrity, and a willingness to apply themselves wholeheartedly to the business of supporting and governing the Ledyard Public Schools system. To these ends, Board members shall:

1. Be aware of the State statutes affecting schools, regulations of the Department of Education, and District policies, rules and regulations.
2. Thoroughly prepare for Board meetings.
3. Accept the will of the majority vote of the Board and give support to the resulting policy or action.
4. Refer all questions and complaints from constituents to the Superintendent and/or Board, and to abstain from individual counsel and action.
5. Recognize that Board membership vests no individual authority unless expressly authorized by the Board.
6. Respect the confidentiality of all matters properly discussed in executive session of the Board, and all matters pertaining to the schools that, if discussed, might needlessly injure individuals or the schools.
7. Immediately object to public matters that may be inappropriately brought up during executive sessions of the Board

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes

1-200. Definitions.

10-4a. Educational interests of state identified.

10-186. Duties of local and regional boards of education re school attendance. Hearings. Appeals to state board. Establishment of hearing board.

10-220. Duties of boards of education.

10-221. Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures.

10-240. Control of schools.

10-241. Powers of school districts.

Charter of the Town of Ledyard, Chapter II, Section 5 – Board of Education

Bylaw adopted: November 2, 1994

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LEDYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Ledyard, Connecticut