

## School Board

### Powers and Duties of the School Board

The major powers and duties of the School Board include, but are not limited to:

1. Formulating, adopting, and modifying Board policies, at its sole discretion, subject only to mandatory collective bargaining agreements and State and federal law. **1**
2. Employing a Superintendent and other personnel, making employment decisions, dismissing personnel, and establishing an equal employment opportunity policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination. **2**
3. Directing, through policy, the Superintendent, in his or her charge of the District's administration. **3**
4. Approving the annual budget, tax levies, major expenditures, payment of obligations, annual audit, and other aspects of the District's financial operation; and making available a statement of financial affairs as provided in State law. **4**
5. Entering contracts using the public bidding procedure when required. **5**
6. Indemnifying, protecting, and insuring against any loss or liability of the School District, Board members, employees, and agents as provided or authorized by State law. **6**
7. Providing, constructing, controlling, and maintaining adequate physical facilities; making school buildings available for use as civil defense shelters; and establishing a resource conservation policy. **7**
8. Establishing an equal educational opportunities policy that prohibits unlawful discrimination. **8**
9. Approving the curriculum, textbooks, and educational services. **9**
10. Evaluating the educational program and approving School Improvement and District Improvement Plans. **10**

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**1** State law controls this policy's content. School board powers listed in The School Code are not exclusive (105 ILCS 5/10-20). This policy's intent is to list the *major* statutory powers and duties – not all of them.

For the first numbered paragraph, see 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5 and 115 ILCS 5/1 et seq. (Illinois Educational Labor Relations Act); and policy 2:240, *Board Policy Development*.

**2** 105 ILCS 5/10-21.4 (employing superintendent); 5/10-20.7 and 5/10-21.1 (teachers); 5/10-21.9 (criminal history records checks); 5/10-22.34 (non-certificated personnel); 5/10-22.4 (dismissing teachers for cause); and 5/10-23.5 and 5/24-12 (reduction in force). See policies in Sections 3, **General School Administration**, and 5, **Personnel**.

**3** 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7.

**4** 105 ILCS 5/10-20.17, 5/10-20.19 and 5/17-1 et seq. See policies in Section 4, **Operational Services**.

**5** 105 ILCS 5/10-20.21. See policy 4:60, *Purchases and Contracts*.

**6** 105 ILCS 5/10-20.20, amended by P.A. 96-62 (duty to indemnify) and 5/10-22.3 (duty to insure against loss or liability). The individuals who must be protected are identical in both statutes except that the 2009 legislation amended the indemnification statute to add mentors for new certified staff members. See policy 4:100, *Insurance Management*.

**7** For the first clause, see 105 ILCS 5/10-20.6 (amended by P.A. 96-998), 5/10-20.12, 5/10-22.10, 5/10-22.35A, and 5/10-22.36; and policy 4:150, *Facility Management and Building Programs*. For the second clause, see 105 ILCS 5/10-22.35, amended by P.A. 96-57. For the third clause, see 105 ILCS 5/10-20.19c, amended by P.A. 95-741; and policy 4:70, *Resource Conservation*.

**8** Many civil rights laws guarantee equal educational opportunities; see policy 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*.

**9** 105 ILCS 5/10-20.8 and 5/10-20.9. See policies in Section 6, **Instruction**.

**10** 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25d and 105 ILCS 5/27-1. See policies 6:10, *Educational Philosophy and Objectives*; and 6:15, *School Accountability*.

11. Submitting to parents/guardians, District taxpayers, the Governor, the General Assembly, and the State Board of Education a school report card assessing the performance of its schools and students. **11**
12. Establishing and supporting student discipline policies designed to maintain an environment conducive to learning, including deciding individual student suspension or expulsion cases brought before it. **12**
13. Establishing attendance units within the District and assigning students to the schools. **13**
14. Establishing the school year. **14**
15. Requiring a moment of silence to recognize veterans during any type of school event held at a District school on November 11. **15**
16. Providing student transportation services. **16**
17. Entering into joint agreements with other boards to establish cooperative educational programs or provide educational facilities. **17**
18. Complying with requirements in the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act. Specifically, each individual Board member must, if an allegation is raised to the member during an open or closed Board meeting that a student is an abused child as defined in the Act, direct or cause the Board to direct the Superintendent or other equivalent school administrator to comply with the Act's requirements concerning the reporting of child abuse. **18**
19. Communicating the schools' activities and operations to the community and representing the needs and desires of the community in educational matters. **19**

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**11** 105 ILCS 5/10-17a.

**12** 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6. See policies 7:190, *Student Discipline*; 7:200, *Suspension Procedures*; and 7:210, *Expulsion Procedures*.

**13** 105 ILCS 5/10-21.3 and 5/10-22.5. See policy 7:30, *Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer*.

**14** 105 ILCS 5/10-19 and 23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.420. See policy 6:20, *School Year Calendar and Day*.

**15** Recognizing veterans on Nov. 11 is required by 105 ILCS 5/10-20.46, added by P.A. 96-84.

**16** 105 ILCS 5/10-22.22. See policy 4:110, *Transportation*.

**17** 105 ILCS 5/10-22.31a. See policy 1:20, *District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements*.

**18** 325 ILCS 5/4.

**19** See policy 8:10, *Connection with the Community*.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/2-3.25d, 5/10-1 et seq., 5/17-1, and 5/27-1.  
115 ILCS 5/1 et seq.  
325 ILCS 5/4.

CROSS REF.: 1:10 (School District Legal Status), 1:20 (District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 2:10 (School District Governance), 2:80 (Board Member Oath and Conduct), 2:140 (Communications To and From the Board), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts), 4:70 (Resource Conservation), 4:100 (Insurance Management), 4:110 (Transportation), 4:150 (Facility Management and Building Programs), 5:10 (Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment), 5:90 (Abused and Neglected Child Reporting), 6:10 (Educational Philosophy and Objectives), 6:15 (School Accountability), 6:20 (School Year Calendar and Day), 7:10 (Equal Educational Opportunities), 7:30 (Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer), 7:190 (Student Discipline), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 8:10 (Connection with the Community), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

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