

## West Bonner County School District

### THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1205

#### School Board Powers and Duties

The board shall concern itself primarily with broad questions of policy rather than with administrative details. The application of policies is an administrative task to be performed by the superintendent and district staff and who shall be held responsible for the effective administration and supervision of the entire school system.

Individual members of the board have no power separate from the board as a whole. Members of the board have authority only when acting as a board legally in session. The board is not bound by any action or statement on the part of an individual board member except when such statement or action is in pursuance to specific instructions from the board. No board member, by virtue of his or her office, may exercise any administrative responsibilities with respect to the schools, or, as an individual, command the services of any school employee.

The board, functioning within the framework of laws, court decisions, attorney general's opinions, State Department of Education regulations and similar mandates from the state and national levels of government, and recognizing the authority of the state, fulfills its mission as the governing body of a political subdivision by acting as follows in the execution of its duties:

1. Enacts policy
2. Adopts courses of study and provides instructional aides
3. Employs all staff members and fixes and prescribes their duties.
4. Approves the budget, financial reports, audits, major expenditures, payment of obligations and policies whereby the administration may formulate procedures, regulations, and other guides for the orderly accomplishment of business.
5. Estimates and seeks to provide funds for the operation, support, maintenance, improvement and extension of the school system.
6. Provides for the planning, expansion, improvement, financing, construction, maintenance, use and disposition of physical plants of the school system.
7. Prescribes the minimum standards needed for the efficient operation and improvements of the school system.
8. Evaluates the educational program to determine the effectiveness with which the schools are achieving the educational purpose of the school system.
9. Requires the establishment and maintenance of records, accounts, archives, management methods and procedures considered essential to the efficient conduct of school business.
10. Provides for the dissemination of information relating to the schools necessary for creating a

well-informed public.

11. Make by-laws, rules, and regulations for its government, and that of the district, consistent with the laws of the State of Idaho and the rules of the State Board of Education.
12. Call special meetings or elections for such purpose as may be necessary for the proper conduct and management of the schools within the district.
13. Employ attorneys when deemed in the best interest of the district, or for the purpose of defending the district against any suit or for bringing action deemed necessary to be commenced by the board. Where it is not feasible for the board to meet and appoint an attorney to advise on a matter, the superintendent shall be authorized to contact an attorney of his or her choice for legal advice.
14. Maintain at least one (1) elementary school and one (1) secondary school.
15. Employ necessary help and labor to maintain and operate the schools of the district.
16. Discontinue any school within the district whenever such discontinuance is found to be in the best interest of the district and students.
17. Set the days of the year and the hours of day when schools shall be in session. The amount of hours will conform with state law and regulation.
18. Protect the morals and health of the students.
19. Exclude from school children not of school age.
20. Prescribe rules for the disciplining of unruly and insubordinate students.
21. Exclude from school students with contagious or infectious diseases, or who are diagnosed or are suspected of having a contagious or infectious disease, or those who are not immune and have been exposed to a contagious disease; and close school on order of the State Board of Health or local health authorities.
22. Equip and maintain a suitable library in the schools and to exclude from libraries all books, tracts, papers, and catechisms of sectarian natures.
23. Determine school holidays.
24. Erect and maintain at each school a suitable flagstaff or flagpole and display a flag of the United States of America on all days when school is in session, except during inclement weather.
25. On each Veteran's Day that school is in session, conduct and observe an appropriate program of at least one class period remembering and honoring American veterans.
26. Prohibit entrance to each schoolhouse or school grounds, prohibit loitering in schoolhouses or on school grounds; and provide the removal from such schoolhouses or school grounds or any individuals who disrupt the educational processes or whose presence is detrimental to the morals, health, safety, academic learning or discipline of the students.
27. Supervise and regulate those extracurricular activities which are outside the regular academic courses or curriculum of the public schools.

28. Govern the district in compliance with state laws and rules of the State Board of Education.
29. Submit to the superintendent of public instruction by July 1 of each year, documentation which meets the reporting requirements of the Federal Gun Free Schools Act of 1994, as contained within the Federal Improving America's Schools Act of 1994.
30. Hire a school superintendent. Evaluate the school superintendent in January of each year; a second evaluation in July may be done at the discretion of the Board or at the request of the school superintendent.
31. Approves contracts.

#### Waivers of State Board of Education Rules

The State Board of Education may grant a waiver of any rule not required by state or federal law to any school district upon written request. The Board will not grant waivers of any rule required by state or federal law. State and federal law includes case law (including consent decrees), statutes, constitutions, and federal regulations.

This district will seek waivers from the State Board of Education when extenuating circumstances preclude compliance with any rule governing Administration, Uniformity or Thoroughness. The superintendent or designee will prepare and submit any requests to the board of trustees. The board of trustees will review waiver requests on a case by case basis, and, if approved, will submit the waiver request to the State Board of Education.

Legal Reference:       I.C. § 33-313 Trustee Zones  
                              I.C. § 33-501 Board of Trustees  
                              I.C. § 67-2341 Open Public Meetings – Definitions

#### Policy History:

Adopted on: March 14, 2007

Revised on: March 12, 2008