

Board-Superintendent Relationship

The effective operation of the District depends on a collaborative working relationship between the Board and the Superintendent.

The Board recognizes that policymaking is its most important responsibility. The Board is responsible for setting the direction for the District and evaluating progress toward goals.

The management of the schools is the function of the Superintendent. The Board holds the Superintendent responsible for complying with all applicable laws, rules and regulations; for administering Board policies and decisions; for the operation of the schools and the educational program; for the system of supervision, development and evaluation of staff; and for keeping the Board informed about school operations, problems and opportunities. The board recognizes that the Superintendent may delegate certain responsibilities to other personnel. Such delegation does not relieve the Superintendent of the final responsibility for actions taken.

The Board collectively and as individual members shall:

1. Recognize the Superintendent as the educational leader of the District;
2. Provide direction for the Superintendent through written policies, objectives and goals for the District;
3. Give the Superintendent full administrative authority and support for properly discharging the Superintendent's administrative duties, while holding the Superintendent responsible for acceptable results;
4. Hold all Board meetings in the presence of the Superintendent, except as otherwise permitted by law or upon mutual agreement of the Superintendent and the Board;
5. Refer complaints, criticism and requests to the Superintendent or other appropriate personnel and discuss them at Board meetings only after administrative solutions have been exhausted;

6. Receive all recommendations or reports from principals, teachers, other staff, committees, task forces or groups through the Superintendent, while retaining the right to discuss matters affecting school affairs directly with such persons and groups at their own initiative or otherwise; and
7. Evaluate the Superintendent and provide appropriate opportunities for the Superintendent to share perceptions regarding the working relationship between the Board and the Superintendent.

Legal References: 1 MRSA Section 401 et seq.
20-1 MRSA Sections 1001 et seq.; 1051 et seq.; 13201; 13301

Adopted: December 7, 1970 (old BCD)

Revised/Recoded: August 25, 1999