

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

1. Relationship with Community. A School Committee member in his/her relations with the community should:
 - realize that his/her primary responsibility is to the children
 - recognize that his/her basic function is policy-making and not administrative
 - remember that he/she is one of a team and must abide by, and carry out, all committee decisions as they are made
 - be well-informed concerning the duties of a Committee member on both a state and local level
 - remember that he/she represents the entire community at all times
 - accept the office of a Committee member as a means of unselfish service with no intent to "play politics," in any sense of the word, or to benefit personally from committee activities.

2. Relationship with Administrators. A School Committee member in his/her relations with school administration should:
 - endeavor to establish sound, clearly defined policies which will direct and support administration
 - recognize and support the administrative chain of command, and refuse to act upon complaints as an individual outside the administration
 - act only on the recommendation of the chief administrator on all matters of employment or dismissal of school personnel
 - give chief administrators full responsibility for discharging his/her professional duties, holding him/her responsible for acceptable results.

3. Relationships with Members. A School Committee member in his/her relations with fellow School Committee members should:
 - recognize that action at official meetings is binding and that he/she alone cannot bind the committee outside of such meetings
 - realize that statements or promises should not be made of how he/she will vote on matters that will come before the Committee
 - uphold the intent of Executive Sessions and respect the privileged communications that exists in executive sessions
 - not withhold pertinent information on school matters or personnel problems, either from members of his/her own Committee or from members of other committees who may be seeking help and information on school problems
 - make decisions only after all facts on a question have been presented and discussed.