

SCHOOL ATTORNEY**I. General Purpose**

The board recognizes that the increasing complexity of school district operations frequently requires procurement of professional legal services. Consequently, it shall retain an attorney or law firm for that purpose.

II. Procedures

A decision to seek legal advice or assistance on behalf of the school district shall be made by the Superintendent or by persons specifically authorized by the Superintendent. Such action shall occur where it is consistent with approved district policy and meets the obvious needs of the district. The decision may also take place as a consequence of formal board direction.

Most instances of legal assistance to the district may be considered routine and not necessitating specific board approval. The Superintendent or designee may consult with the NHSBA legal assistance office to interpret new and/or complex statutory requirements or regulations, prepare or review contracts and seek legal opinions regarding other district issues. If further assistance or legal advice is required, the Superintendent or designee may consult with the school district attorney.

However, when the Superintendent or designee concludes that unusual types or amounts of professional legal service may be required, Board authorization for such service shall be promptly requested.

Annually, the Superintendent shall provide the Board with his/her evaluation of the performance of legal counsel for the prior year.

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