

**SCHOOL BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES**

This School Boards shall exercise all the powers and duties prescribed to them by applicable state and federal laws, and rules of the New Hampshire State Board of Education.

The following are current duties for School Boards prescribed by the New Hampshire State Board of Education:

- (a) The School Board shall adopt policies necessary and desirable to control and effectuate the recruitment, employment, evaluation and dismissal of teachers and other employees and may delegate authority to the superintendent of schools to carry out the provisions of such policies provided that no teacher shall be employed who is not certified or who has not been nominated by the superintendent of schools and elected by the School Board;
- (b) The School Board shall adopt policies necessary and desirable to control and effectuate the purchase of equipment, supplies, or services and may delegate to the superintendent of schools the authority to make financial commitments in accordance with such policy;
- (c) The School Board shall provide, through documented planning and public meetings and quorum votes, accommodation for all pupils in approved schools or other facilities in accordance with state laws;
- (d) The School Board shall provide required transportation of students consistent with these rules and provide that all school buildings and other learning environments be maintained in a manner consistent with standards of health and safety as required by these rules;
- (e) The School Board shall prepare an annual budget in accordance with RSA 32 and RSA 40 and comply with all federal and state laws and rules;
- (f) The School Board shall hold meetings for the transaction of business at least once in 2 months and require the attendance of the superintendent or designee. The Board shall cause a written record to be kept of each meeting in accordance with RSA 91-A;
- (g) The School Board shall, in consultation with the superintendent and in accordance with statutes and rules of the State Board of Education, determine the educational goals of the district, develop long-range plans and identify measurable and attainable short-term objectives. The School Board shall require the implementation of educational programs designed to reflect the goals and objectives and, further, the School Board shall review such programs and make public the results of such investigation;
- (h) The School Board shall exercise all powers and perform all duties vested in the imposed upon the School Board by law or rules of the State Board;
- (i) The School Board shall adopt a rule to ensure that there shall be no unlawful discrimination on the basis of sex, race, age, creed, color, marital status, national origin, or disability in

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educational programs or activities consistent with the local standards which may be stricter in specific areas than the broader statewide standards;

(j) The School Board shall establish a policy on sexual harassment, written in age appropriate language and published and available in written form to all those who must comply, which includes, at a minimum, the elements specified below:

(1) A statement that sexual harassment is against the law and against school district policy;

(2) A definition of sexual harassment with examples of actions that might constitute sexual harassment;

(3) The names and roles of all persons involved in implementing the procedures;

(4) A description of the process so all parties know what to expect, including time frames and deadlines for investigation and resolution of complaints;

(5) A prohibition against retaliation toward anyone involved in a complaint;

(6) A description of possible penalties including termination;

(7) A requirement that a written factual report be produced regardless of the outcome of the investigation;

(8) At least one level of appeal of the investigators recommendation;

(9) A clear statement that someone can bypass the internal process and proceed directly to the New Hampshire Commission on Human Rights, with address and phone number, or office of civil rights, with address and phone number; and

(k) The School Board shall annually evaluate the superintendent based on written criteria established by the School Board(s)/SAU Board.

(l) The School Board shall adopt a teacher performance evaluation system, with the involvement of teachers and principals, for use in the school district, pursuant to RSA 189:1-a, III.

**Legal References:**

*RSA: 32, Municipal Budget Law*

*RSA: 40, Government of Town Meeting*

*RSA: 91-A, Access to Governmental Records and Meetings*

*RSA: 189:1a, Duty to Provide Education*

*RSA: 195:5, Cooperative School Districts: School Board Powers and Duties*

*N.H. Code of Administrative Rules-Section Ed. 303.01, Duties of School Board*

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