

School Committee Powers and Duties

The Belmont School Committee has all the powers and duties conferred upon it by state law including, but not limited to:

1. Developing, in concert with the community, students and staff, a common vision for the Belmont Public Schools focused on learning and achievement responsive to the needs of all students;
2. Adopting, evaluating and updating policies consistent with the law and the Belmont Public Schools' vision and goals;
3. Maintaining accountability for student learning by adopting the Belmont Public Schools curriculum and monitoring student progress;
4. Ensuring a safe and appropriate educational environment for all students;
5. Providing leadership on educational issues and advocating on behalf of all students and public education;
6. Hiring and supporting the Superintendent so that the vision, goals and policies of the Belmont Public Schools can be implemented;
7. Conducting regular and timely evaluations of the Superintendent based on the Superintendent's job description, the goals and objectives set for the evaluation period and any applicable performance standards established by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education;
8. Adopting a fiscally responsible budget based on the Belmont Public Schools' vision and goals, and regularly monitoring the fiscal health of the Belmont Public Schools;
9. Establishing a framework for the Belmont Public Schools' collective bargaining process and adopting responsible agreements;
10. Convening as a judicial and appeals body and serving as the final decision-maker in accordance with law, School Committee policies and negotiated agreements;
11. Retaining counsel for the School Committee for collective bargaining and for general legal matters;

12. Ensuring opportunities for the diverse range of views in the community to inform School Committee deliberations; and

13. Periodically evaluating its own effectiveness.

The School Committee has no authority to exercise any administrative control over the schools or school personnel.

Legal References:

MGL 71;37, 37E, 37F, 38, 59

Internal Reference: Administration: Superintendent