

Bylaw

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COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

The Board may authorize the establishment of such standing committees from among its membership as it finds necessary to study operations in specific areas and to make recommendations for Board action. The following rules will govern the appointment and function of such committees:

- A. The committee shall be established through action of the Board.
- B. The committee chairperson and members shall be appointed by the Board president, after consultation with Board members, and upon ratification by a majority of the whole Board
- C. The committee shall be provided with a list of its functions and duties.
- D. The committee may make recommendations for Board action, but it may not act for the Board.
- E. The Board president and Chief School Administrator shall be ex officio members of all standing committees.
- F. All standing committees shall be dissolved at the end of the Board's year--at the annual organizational meeting. They may be dissolved at any time by a motion of the Board.

Special Committees

Special committees may be created for special assignments. The same rules shall apply to special committees as apply to standing committees, except that they shall be dissolved upon completion of their assignment.

Committee of the Whole

The Board reserves the right to meet and work as a committee of the whole in informational, discussion, and exploratory sessions. No official action shall be taken at these meetings, unless so advertised.

Date: June 25, 2007

WEST ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Continued) COMMITTEES

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Other Reasons:

It is advisable to have a bylaw stating whether the Board will operate with a committee system or as a committee of the whole and who will appoint committees. Many Boards function as a committee of the whole, relying on their administrative staff for all preliminary work.

The School Ethics Commission has deliberated on the topic of committee assignments on several occasions, particularly concerning assignment to the negotiations committee. Consult your Board attorney for the most current thinking on this subject.

Recommendation:

A bylaw adopting Board's operating style.

A regulation outlining names and duties of standing committees may be included; clear rules for committee activities will avoid duplication of effort. Great care should be taken not to assign administrative functions to Board committees.

<u>Legal References:</u>	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 10:4-6 <u>et seq.</u>	Open Public Meetings Act
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:10-6	Board meetings public; frequency; hours of commencement; adjournment, etc., for lack of quorum
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:11-1	General mandatory powers and duties
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:12-21 <u>et seq.</u>	School Ethics Act
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:54-20	Powers of Board (county vocational schools)
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:28-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	School Ethics Commission

School Ethics Commission, Advisory Opinion, A01-93

School Ethics Commission, Advisory Opinion, A10-93

School Ethics Commission, Advisory Opinion, A33-95

School Ethics Commission, Advisory Opinion, A02-00

School Ethics Commission, Advisory Opinion, A14-00

Key Words

Committees, Board Committees