

Haverhill School Committee  
Policy BB  
SCHOOL BOARD LEGAL STATUS

The School Committee's powers and duties are derived from and controlled by state statute. In general, the School Committee shall have general charge and management of all public schools, including evening schools, evening high schools and summer schools, and of vocational schools and departments when not otherwise provided for by law. Thus, the School Committee is charged with the development of reasonable rules and regulations for the conduct of the school system.

Since the School Committee is the governing body of the school system, its basic function is policy-making and not administrative in nature.

By law, the School Committee must exercise its powers and duties as a committee. All action must be taken at a duly called meeting at which a majority of the Committee members are present. The decisions and actions of individual members have no legal standing unless these powers have been duly assigned to them by Committee action.

M.G.L. CH. 71, S. 37.