

Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 - Board of Education: Board Policy
Title	Role of the Board
Code	100.03
Status	Active
Legal	<u>Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §4-101, §4-108.</u>
Adopted	June 11, 2003
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I. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to identify the primary duties of the Board of Education of Dorchester County.

II. A. The Board is a corporate body in Maryland and controls educational matters within Dorchester County. It seeks ways to promote the interests of the schools within the county. The Board has tripartite jurisdiction and is charged with carrying out all three of the primary functions of government, namely the executive, legislative and judicial functions. The Board acts similarly in relationship to the schools as do boards of directors to successful business organizations, through the powers of legislation, the determination of policies, and the evaluation of results. As such, the Superintendent of the Dorchester County Public Schools runs the operations of the school system on a day-to-day basis. The Maryland State Board of Education exercises visitatorial authority over the local Board.

B. The Board's duties are identified in the Education Article, as interpreted by court decisions, attorney general opinions, and similar mandates from the State of Maryland and the laws of the United States of America. These duties include:

1. *Appoint the local Superintendent.* The Board selects and evaluates the Superintendent.
2. *Policy development/legislative functions.* The Board enacts policies for implementation by the Superintendent, who is authorized to enact corresponding regulations.

3. *Appointment of Certificated Personnel.* Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board appoints all principals, teachers, and other certificated personnel.
4. *Budget.* Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board adopts an annual budget that provides adequate financial resources to employ staff, operate facilities, equipment, and materials of instruction.
5. *Judicial Role.* The Board exercises its quasi-judicial authority when a decision of the Superintendent is appealed. The Board will determine if the decision of the Superintendent was arbitrary, unreasonable, or illegal.
6. *Improvement of School System.* The Board shall seek in every way to promote the interests of the Dorchester County Public Schools and the students it serves. While the Board members are elected by district, their responsibilities are to the students as a whole so that all children receive a quality education and equal educational opportunity.
7. *Facilities.* The Superintendent reports the facilities needs of the Dorchester County Public Schools to the Board so that the Board may purchase school sites, approve building plans that will support the educational program, and maintain the facilities.

C. The Board exercises its duties and powers only when convened in a legally constituted meeting.