

2001

Role of the Board of Education and Legal Status

The Ralston Public Schools Board of Education (board) is charged by the Legislature with the duty of providing public elementary and secondary education to the citizens of the district. The Legislature has also created the State Board of Education and the State Department of Education, and has delegated certain regulatory and advisory functions to them. The board is responsible to these agencies as specified by law.

The Ralston School District #54, a Class III district in the state of Nebraska, is governed by a Board of Education consisting of six members, and by resolution, may increase the number of Board of Education members as allowed by statute.

The board's primary duties are: (1) to establish a mission, goals, and policies; (2) to establish and maintain school facilities; (3) to select a superintendent; (4) to adopt a fiscally responsible budget; and (5) to evaluate programs.

1. Establishment of Mission, Goals and Policies

The board shall concern itself with broad questions of mission, goals and policy, rather than administrative details. The application of policies is an administrative task to be performed by the superintendent of schools and his or her administrative staff, who shall be held responsible for the effective administration and supervision of the entire school district.

2. Establishment and Maintenance of School Facilities and Other Resources

The board is the legal agency through which the community works to provide the physical facilities, curriculum, instructional supplies and staff to enable the district's mission and objectives to be carried out. The board will establish and maintain school facilities necessary to educate the students of the district.

3. Selection of the Superintendent of Schools

The board will employ a superintendent of schools as the chief executive to whom it will delegate the administration of the school program. As the chief administrator for the board, the superintendent will implement board policies and supervise the day-to-day operation of the school system. The superintendent will keep the board informed of the implementation of the plans and policies, and will recommend changes to policies as necessary. The superintendent will furnish educational leadership to the board, the school staff, and the community.

4. Fiscally Responsible Budget

The board will annually adopt a fiscally responsible budget that will permit the district to accomplish its goals and objectives. The management of the financial program and the development of the proposed budget for the district is delegated to the superintendent.

The board will work for adequate and dependable financial support of the public schools, promotion of effective and efficient organization, and administration of the district.

5. Evaluation of Program

The board will evaluate, or cause to be evaluated, the progress and results of the educational program on a continuous basis. In making these evaluations, the board will seek and give appropriate weight to the superintendent's analysis and recommendations.

6. School Board Powers and Duties

The responsibilities of the Ralston Board of Education include:

- Representing the people of the District;
- Creating a shared vision of the District's educational future;
- Formulating, adopting, reviewing, and repealing, policies;
- Selecting, and evaluating the performance of, the Superintendent of the Ralston School District;
- Approving legal contracts;
- Approving and adopting an annual budget;
- Approving expenditures of the District;
- Providing facilities to house the educational program of the District;
- Adjudicating appeals from staff members, students, and patrons of the District.

Adopted on: July 25, 2016

Revised on:

Reviewed on: September 23, 2019