

0146 BOARD MEMBER AUTHORITY

A Board member does not possess individually the authority and powers that reside in the Board of Education. ~~The Board of Education's authority and powers reside only in the collective body and not in its individual members.~~ No Board member by virtue of ~~his/her~~the Board member's office shall exercise any administrative responsibility with respect to the operation of the school district or as an individual command the services of any school district employee.

Release of Information

Board member access to public, personnel, and ~~pupil~~student records shall be governed by law and by the provisions of Policy Nos. 8310, 8320, and 8330.

Confidential information to which a Board member becomes privy as a result of ~~his or her~~the member's office shall be used only for the purpose of helping the member discharge ~~his or her~~the member's responsibilities as Board member. No Board member shall reveal information contained in a confidential record or received during a duly convened private session of the Board except when that information has been released to the public by the Board.

~~———— No portion of the records of the district as pertain to employees or pupils shall be public record except as provided by law.~~

~~———— No working papers, internal memoranda or other documents generated by members of the Board of Education or members of the district staff shall be public documents or open to inspection by the public except by specific approval of the Board.~~

Public Expressions

Board members are entitled to express themselves publicly on any matter, including issues involving the Board and the school district. Individual Board members cannot, however, express the position of the Board except as expressly authorized, in accordance with Board Policy No. 9120. A Board member shall not represent ~~his or her~~the member's personal opinion as the position of the Board and shall include in all formal expressions in which ~~his or her~~the member's Board affiliation is likely to be recognized, such as letters to government officials or newspapers, speeches to organizations, and the like, a statement that the opinions expressed do not necessarily represent those of the Board.

Board members visiting a school shall comply with district policy and procedures for school visitors.

Members of the Board shall adhere to the Code of Ethics for Board members in Bylaw 0142.

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1

Cross References: 0120, 0142.1

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