

## BOARD MEMBER AUTHORITY

Members of the Board of Education have legal authority for the conduct of the district schools only when acting as a body in a properly convened session. Board members acting as individuals have no authority over personnel or school affairs.

Members of the Board are free to speak to individuals on these issues outside of board meetings but such public expression is not to be construed as board policy. Information from executive sessions must remain confidential at all times. The Board will not be bound in any way by any individual's statement or action unless the Board, through an adopted policy or by a majority vote of Board membership, has delegated this authority to the individual member.

Members of the Board, individually and collectively, recognize and welcome their responsibilities for listening to comments and suggestions from the residents of the school district. Individual board members shall refer compliments, suggestions and constructive criticism about operational matters directly to the Superintendent for appropriate consideration and action. Comments affecting policy will be routed through regular channels to the Board meeting agenda for consideration by the Board as a whole.

Cross-ref: 1230, Public Participation at Board Meetings  
1400, Public Complaints

Ref: Education Law §§1604; 1701; 1708; 1709; 1710  
*Matter of Bruno*, 4 EDR 14 (1964)

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