

MESSALONSKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT (MSAD 47)

File: BB

SCHOOL BOARD LEGAL STATUS

The Constitution of the State places the responsibility of establishing and maintaining public schools in the jurisdiction of the State Legislature, which provides for a State Board of Education charged with the general supervision of the public schools. The law also provides local public schools shall be maintained, developed, and operated by locally elected school committees or boards of education. This Maine School Administrative District Board of Directors derives its legal authority from the State Constitution, state statutes, and regulations of the State Board of Education.

By custom and tradition, local school boards have responsibilities to the local citizenry they serve and which elect them to office. Recognizing this parallel concept of authority and responsibility, the Board becomes a policy-making body for the school district serving within the framework provided by law and responding to the will of the local citizenry.

There shall be 14 members on the Board of Directors, 4 from Sidney, 3 from Belgrade, 6 from Oakland, and 1 from Rome. Each Director serves for three years, and these terms overlap so that in each year one-third of the directorships are vacated and must be resupplied by election.

Each year as part of the Board reorganization procedure, one director is elected to serve as chair and is the presiding officer at all meetings.

One Director is elected to serve as vice-chair. In the absence of the chair, the vice-chair will assume the role of acting chair with all rights and responsibilities of the chair contained therein. In the absence of both the Chair and Vice Chair, the Curriculum Committee Chair shall assume the role of Acting Chair with all rights and responsibilities of the Chair contained therein.

Legal Reference: Title 20A MRSA Sec. 1001; 1251 et seq.

Cross Reference: AA - School District Legal Status
BDB - Board Officers

Adopted: Date of Manual Adoption

Revised: Fall, 1998

Date of Revision: August 1, 2007