

# **School Board Information**

## ***What is a School Board?***

- Nine Unpaid Voting Members
- Four-Year Terms
- Empowered by State of Pennsylvania
- Duties Set by PA School Laws
- Establishes Policies
- Adopts Annual Budget
- Levies Taxes
- Approves Expenditures
- Sets School Calendar
- Approves Curriculum Changes

Superintendent serves as a non-voting member.

The Solicitor, elected and hired for a stipulated fee by the Board, advises the Board in legal matters and completes various legal activities involving the School District.

## ***What Are the Qualifications for School Board Membership?***

- Citizen of Pennsylvania
- 18 Years of Age
- School District Resident for One Year Prior to Election
- Be a Person of Good Moral Character
- Term of Office is Four Years

## ***What is the Role of the Superintendent with the School Board?***

- Elected by Board for three, four or five year term
- Executive officer in administrating policies and operation of schools
- Advisor of Board on school programs
- Makes recommendations to the Board relating to professional staff, curriculum, textbooks, school plant, and financial affairs
- Superintendent has no vote

### ***When Does Your Board Meet?***

- Regular monthly meetings of the Committee of the Whole (Planning Meeting) is generally the third Monday of the month beginning at 7:00pm.
- Regular monthly Board Meeting, when votes are taken, is the 1st Monday of the month. Board meetings begin at 7:00pm.

School vacations, holidays, budget deadlines and board reorganization may change these dates and are advertised in advance.

Meetings are held in the Blue Room at the Elementary School.

### ***How Do You Address the Board?***

Public comment is encouraged and welcomed at both planning meetings and regular monthly board meetings. The following guidelines will permit meetings to move smoothly and allow sufficient time for all comments to be heard:

- At the monthly Planning Meetings, public comment will be initiated at the beginning of the agenda.
- All comments and questions will be addressed to the chair.
- Board and staff members will not normally respond to comments or questions from the public during the meeting unless recognized by the chair or the superintendent for this purpose.
- When a large number of citizens wish to make statements, the board may limit individual comments so that all parties may be heard.

### ***How Do You Address Individual Problems?***

If you have a specific question regarding your child, begin by speaking with the teacher involved or with the building principal or administrator. If further discussion is necessary the question may be referred to the Superintendent. This procedure enables you to get a direct and immediate response from the individuals directly responsible.

Concerns which remain unanswered may be referred directly to the Superintendent. Board members are responsible for matters which affect the entire district, and they should only be contacted about individual problems if the family's concerns have not been addressed by the various staff members involved.