School Board Powers and Duties

The Board, functioning within the framework of laws, court decisions, attorney general's opinions, State Department of Education regulations and similar mandates from the state and national levels of government, and recognizing the authority of the state, fulfills its mission as the governing body of a political subdivision by acting as follows in the execution of its duties:

1. Enacts policy, by-laws, rules, and regulations for its governance, and that of the District, consistent with the laws of the State of Idaho and the rules of the State Board of Education. Governs the District in compliance with state law and rules of the State Board of Education.

2. Maintains at least one (1) elementary school and one (1) secondary school, and fixes the days of the year and the hours of the day when schools shall be in session. The amount of hours will conform with state law and regulation. Determines school holidays.

3. Discontinues any school within the District whenever such discontinuance is found to be in the best interest of the District and of the students.

4. Adopts courses of study and provides instructional aides. Provides, or requires students to be provided with, suitable textbooks and supplies. Equips and maintains suitable libraries in schools and excludes therefrom all books, tracts, papers, and catechisms of sectarian nature.

5. Erects and maintains at each school a suitable flagstaff or flagpole and displays the flag of the United States of America on all days when school is in session. On each Veteran’s Day that school is in session, conducts and observes an appropriate program of at least one class period remembering and honoring American veterans.

6. Employs all staff members necessary to maintain and operate the schools of the District and fixes and prescribes their duties. Requires that all certificated and non-certificated employees hired undergo a criminal history check and shall submit a completed fingerprint card to the Department of Education no later than five (5) days following the first day of employment or unsupervised contact with students in a K-12 setting, whichever is sooner.

7. Provides support for teachers in their first two (2) years in the profession in the areas of: administrative and supervisory support, mentoring, peer assistance and professional development.

8. Approves the budget, financial reports, audits, major expenditures, payment of
obligations and policies whereby the administration may formulate procedures, regulations, and other guides for the orderly accomplishment of business.

9. Estimates and seeks to provide funds for the operation, support, maintenance, improvement and extension of the school system.

10. Provides for the planning, expansion, improvement, financing, construction, maintenance, use and disposition of physical plants of the school system.

11. Ensures the financial means by which the educational program is conducted.

12. Prescribes the minimum standards needed for the efficient operation and improvements of the school system.

13. Protects the morals and health of the students, and prescribes rules for the disciplining of unruly and/or insubordinate students including rules on student harassment, intimidation and bullying.

14. Prohibits entrance to each schoolhouse or school grounds; prohibits loitering in schoolhouses or on school grounds; and provides for the removal from each schoolhouse, school bus, or school ground of any individuals who disrupts the educational processes or whose presence is detrimental to the morals, health, safety, academic learning or discipline of the students.

15. Excludes from school children not of school age, and students with contagious or infectious diseases, or who are diagnosed or are suspected as having a contagious or infectious disease, or those who are not immune and have been exposed to a contagious or infectious disease; and close school on order of the State Board of Health & Welfare or local health authorities.

16. Maintains a safe environment for students by developing a system that cross-checks all contractors or other persons who have irregular contact with students against the statewide sex offender register.

17. Evaluates the educational program to determine the effectiveness with which the schools are achieving the educational purpose of the school system.

18. Supervises and regulates those extracurricular activities which are outside the regular academic courses or curriculum of the public schools.

19. Requires the establishment and maintenance of records, accounts, archives, management methods and procedures considered essential to the efficient conduct of school business.

20. Provides for the dissemination of information relating to the schools necessary for creating a well-informed public, and ensures that the community is informed of the
needs, purposes, values, and status of the schools.

21. Calls special meetings or elections for such purpose as may be necessary for the proper conduct and management of the schools within the District.

22. Employs attorneys when deemed in the best interest of the District, or for the purpose of defending the District against any suit or for bringing action deemed necessary to be commenced by the Board. Where it is not feasible for the Board to meet and appoint an attorney to advise on a matter, the Superintendent shall be authorized to contact an attorney of his or her choice for legal advice.

23. Submits to the Superintendent of public instruction no later than July 1 of each year, documentation which meets the reporting requirements of the Federal Gun Free Schools Act of 1994, as contained within the Federal Improving America’s Schools Act of 1994.

Procedure History:
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