

First vote passed 3/22/11 – 2nd vote 4/12/11

SCHOOL COMMITTEE 6000

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OPERATIONS 6200

POWERS AND DUTIES 6207

The Committee is charged with the general operation of the public schools. It is responsible for carrying out certain mandatory laws relating to schools, and for considering and accepting or rejecting permissive legislation.

The Committee recognizes as its three main functions the following:

1. Policymaking -- That function which plans what shall be done, establishes guidelines for accomplishing the tasks, and provides budgetary requests and support for their achievement.
2. Executive -- That function which is concerned with placing plans and policies into operation. The Committee delegates this function to its chief executive officer, the Superintendent. It is his/her responsibility to establish procedures through which plans and policies are put into practice, to furnish creative leadership to the Committee and school staff, and to report progress, problems, and results to the committee.
3. Appraisal -- that function which attempts to determine the desires of the public in matters of public education, the results achieved through the educational program, and the efficiency of school operations.

Specific Responsibilities In carrying out its three main functions, the Committee shall:

1. Exercise all powers and perform all duties required by law and/or by regulations of the State Board of Education.
2. To elect a superintendent of the schools who shall be charged with the administration of the school system, subject only to policy guidelines and directives adopted by the school committee and upon the recommendation of the superintendent, to establish and appoint assistant or associate superintendents as provided in section 59 of chapter 71 of the General Laws.
3. Adopt policies for the Superintendent to use as guidelines in his/her administration of the school system. Make all reasonable rules and regulations for the management of the public school system and for conducting the business of the school committee as may be deemed necessary or desirable.
4. Review administrative rules and regulations in sensitive areas, including those pertaining to accounting procedures for school funds.
5. Determine, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, the programs of instruction to be provided in the schools.
6. Adopt and to oversee the administration of an annual operating budget for the school department, subject to appropriation by the board of aldermen. The school committee shall have general charge and superintendence of all school buildings and grounds and shall furnish all school buildings with proper fixtures, furniture and equipment. The school committee shall provide ordinary maintenance of all school buildings and grounds; unless a central municipal maintenance department which may include maintenance of school buildings and grounds is established in accordance with law. Whenever the school committee shall determine that additional classrooms are

necessary to meet the educational needs of the community, at least 1 member of the school committee, or a designee of the school committee, shall serve on the agency, board or committee to which the planning or construction of such new, remodeled or renovated school building is delegated.

7. Establish upon recommendation of the Superintendent, instructional and non-instructional positions required for carrying out the total school program.
8. Determine the schedule of salaries of all classifications of employees upon consultation with the Superintendent, fulfilling all statutory requirements relating to negotiations processes.
9. Determine the annual financial budget after receiving recommendations from the Superintendent and school staff, and present it to the Board of Aldermen.
10. Determine school housing needs for the educational program, approve educational specifications for needed buildings, and provide leadership in communicating these needs to the community for appropriate action.
11. Hear communications from citizens and organizations on matters of school policy; explain the needs of the schools to the public.
12. Act as court of appeal for school staff members, students, and the public when issues involve School Committee policy and its interpretation.