

DARTMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICIES

File: BDG

SCHOOL ATTORNEY

It will be the duty of the counsel for the Committee to advise the School Committee and the Superintendent on the specific legal problems submitted to him/her. He/she will attend meetings upon request and will be sufficiently familiar with Committee policies, practices, and actions under these policies, and with requirements of the school law to enable him/her to offer the necessary legal advice.

A decision to seek legal advice or assistance on behalf of the school system will be made by the Committee through the Chair. The Superintendent will be informed of such decision in order to properly account for the expense. The Superintendent may also take such action at the direction of the Committee. The Committee may authorize the Superintendent to appoint, either on a per case or retainer basis, an attorney to serve as a school attorney.

Many types of legal assistance are routine and do not require specific Committee approval or prior notice. However, when the Superintendent concludes that unusual types or amounts of professional legal service may be required, he/she will advise the Committee and seek either initial or continuing authorization for such service.

The School Committee may use the services provided by the town counsel. The Committee and the Superintendent may seek his/her services to counsel and represent the school system at various times.

SOURCE: MASC

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 71:37E; 71:37F

Adopted: 12-11-12