

Statutory authority of school boards (Title 28A RCW)

RCW 28A.150.230: Basic education act – District school directors' responsibilities.

- (1) It is the intent and purpose of this section to guarantee that each common school district board of directors...be held accountable for the proper operation of their district to the local community and its electorate...[E]ach common school district board of directors shall be vested with the final responsibility for the setting of policies ensuring quality in the content and extent of its educational program and that such program provide students with the opportunity to achieve those skills which are generally recognized as requisite to learning.
- (2) ...[I]t shall be the responsibility of each common school district board of directors to adopt policies to:
 - (a) Establish performance criteria and an evaluation process for its superintendent, classified staff, certificated personnel, including administrative staff, and for all programs constituting a part of such district's curriculum...;
 - (b) Determine the final assignment of staff, certificated or classified, according to board enumerated classroom and program needs and data, based upon a plan to ensure that the assignment policy: (i) Supports the learning needs of all the students in the district; and (ii) gives specific attention to high-need schools and classrooms;
 - (c) Provide information to the local community and its electorate describing the school district's policies concerning hiring, assigning, terminating, and evaluating staff, including the criteria for evaluating teachers and principals;
 - (d) Determine the amount of instructional hours necessary for any student to acquire a quality education ... in not less than an amount otherwise required in RCW [28A.150.220](#), or rules of the state board of education;
 - (e) Determine the allocation of staff time...;
 - (f) Establish final curriculum standards consistent with law and rules of the superintendent of public instruction, relevant to the particular needs of district students or the unusual characteristics of the district...; and
 - (g) Evaluate teaching materials, including text books, teaching aids, handouts, or other printed material, in public hearing...

RCW 28A.320.015: School boards of directors – Powers – Notice of adoption of policy.

- (1) The board of directors of each school district may exercise the following:
 - (a) The broad discretionary power to determine and adopt written policies not in conflict with other law that provide for the development and implementation of programs, activities, services, or practices that the board determines will:
 - (i) Promote the education and daily physical activity of kindergarten through twelfth grade students...; or
 - (ii) Promote the effective, efficient, or safe management and operation of the school district;
 - (b) Such powers as are expressly authorized by law; and
 - (c) Such powers as are necessarily or fairly implied in the powers expressly authorized by law.
- (2) Before adopting a policy...the board of directors shall comply with the notice requirements of the open public meetings act, chapter [42.30](#) RCW...

28A.330.010: Board president, vice president or president pro tempore – Secretary.

...The superintendent... shall act as secretary to the board in accordance with the provisions of RCW [28A.400.030](#).

28A.330.020: Certain board elections, manner and vote required — Selection of personnel, manner.

28A.330.030: Duties of president.

28A.330.040: Duties of vice president.

28A.330.050: Duties of superintendent as secretary of the board.

28A.330.070: Office of board — Records available for public inspection.

28A.330.080: Payment of claims — Signing of warrants.

28A.330.090: Auditing committee and expenditures.

For “First Class” districts (over 2,000 students):

28A.330.100: Additional powers of board.

(1) To employ for a term of not exceeding three years a superintendent of schools of the district, and for cause to dismiss him or her, and to fix his or her duties and compensation;

(2) To employ, and for cause dismiss one or more assistant superintendents and to define their duties and fix their compensation;

(3) To employ a business manager, attorneys, architects, inspectors of construction, superintendents of buildings and a superintendent of supplies, all of whom shall serve at the board's pleasure, and to prescribe their duties and fix their compensation;

(4) To employ, and for cause dismiss, supervisors of instruction and to define their duties and fix their compensation;

(5) To prescribe a course of study and a program of exercises which shall be consistent with the course of study prepared by the superintendent of public instruction...;

(6) ...[E]stablish and maintain such grades and departments... as in the judgment of the board, best shall promote the interests of education in the district;

(7) To determine the length of time over and above one hundred eighty days that school shall be maintained..for purposes of apportionment no district shall be credited with more than one hundred and eighty-three days' attendance in any school year; and to fix the time for annual opening and closing of schools and for the daily dismissal of pupils...;

(8) To maintain a shop and repair department...;

(9) To provide free textbooks and supplies for all children attending school;...

For “Second Class” districts (under 2,000 students):

28A.330.200: Organization of board — Assumption of superintendent's duties by board member

28A.330.210: Notice to ESD superintendent of change of chairman or superintendent.

28A.330.220: Attorney may be employed

28A.330.230: Drawing and issuance of warrants.

28A.330.240: Employment contracts.

RCW 28A.405.100: Minimum criteria for the evaluation of certificated employees, including administrators — Procedure — Scope — Models — Penalty.

(5) Every board of directors shall establish evaluative criteria and procedures for all superintendents, principals, and other administrators. It shall be the responsibility of the district superintendent or his or her designee to evaluate all administrators.