

BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES

The Lafayette Parish School Board shall provide for the operation, improvement and evaluation of a parish public school system and shall establish general policies in keeping with the needs of the communities of the parish and all applicable state laws.

Specifically, it shall be the responsibility of the Lafayette Parish School Board to:

1. Select and appoint a superintendent and support him/her in the discharge of his/her duties (LSA-RS. 17:54; Constitution, VIII:9:B).
2. Appoint all district personnel from nominations made by the superintendent (LSA-RS. 17:81, 17:84).
3. Accept resignations of school personnel.
4. Consider and act on policies for school staffing and operations as inaugurated by the superintendent, the professional staff: members of the Board or the general public.
5. Approve all transfers of Board employees from one school or department to another.
6. Establish general policies for a planned program of education as initiated by the superintendent, his staff: the Board and others.
7. Receive, evaluate and act upon the recommendations and reports of the superintendent.
8. Approve salary schedules for all Board employees (LSA-RS. 17:81).
9. Adopt an annual budget and control expenditures accordingly; review periodic financial reports and modify the budget if and when necessary; submit budget, after approval, to the State Superintendent of Public Education for approval (LSA-RS. 17:88).
10. Select, by public advertisement and bid, a fiscal agent and deposit with reasonable promptness and without payment of service charges, all funds which are in the name of the Lafayette Parish School Board and secured by proper collateral deposited by the fiscal agent for the account of the Board.
11. Select, by public advertisement and bid, a newspaper in which the official minutes of School Board meetings are to be published. Submit all official minutes to this newspaper for publication.

12. Adopt a resolution levying annually all taxes authorized by the Constitution, the laws of the State of Louisiana, and the voters of the Parish of Lafayette, including taxes to meet the principal and interest on outstanding bonds; forward such resolution to the assessor of Lafayette Parish.
13. Request legal opinions from the District Attorney and the Attorney General of the State of Louisiana as needed (LSA-RS. 16:2 and 17:20).
14. Call special tax elections to vote bond issues to provide adequate school facilities and equipment after approval of the State Bond and Tax Board (LSA-RS. 17:1373).
15. Call special tax elections to vote on renewal of existing taxes as well as for additional tax millage for school purposes as provided by the laws of the State of Louisiana.
16. Secure approval of the State Board of Health, State Fire Marshal and the State Department of Education of plans for all new buildings and/or additions to the existing buildings.
17. With the exception of emergencies as defined by RS. 38:22aa A(6), the Board shall procure materials, supplies and public work contracts, in accordance with state law. The awards will be made to the lowest responsible bidder.
18. Expropriate property according to law for school purposes when necessary.
19. Provide personnel and facilities to maintain proper student census records.
20. Provide support for teachers' institutes and meetings for the benefit and professional improvement of teachers and other employees (LSA-RS. 17:85).
2. Accept into the schools of the parish only pupils having actual residence in the parish or under the care, custody and control of a resident thereof, even though domiciles may be in another parish or state; to grant exceptions for students in certain programs and in special instances.
22. Provide transportation to any school of suitable grade approved by the State Department of Education for children living more than one mile therefrom (LSA-RS. 17:158).
23. Provide personnel and facilities for the collection of a 1.5% sales tax for the Lafayette Parish School Board in the entire Parish of Lafayette.
24. Establish attendance areas and school boundaries (LSA-R.S. 17:101 et seq.).

25. Require employees to produce health certificates showing that they are free from communicable diseases.
26. Prescribe rules and regulations governing the handling of all funds and employees entrusted with such funds. Require proper bond as stipulated by the laws of the State of Louisiana of all persons who handle large sum of money (LSA-R.S. 17:95 and 17:97).
27. Sue and/or defend itself in suits at law (LSA-R.S. 17:51).
28. Consider, revise and adopt recommendations of the superintendent and members of his/her staff for providing adequate buildings and equipment for the entire public school system of the Parish of Lafayette (LSA-R.S. 17:81).
29. Appoint architects and/or engineers, as needed, to design new schools and/or renovations of existing buildings.
30. Inform the public concerning the progress and needs of the schools, the instructional program and the financial status of the school system, accurately accounting for all receipts and expenditures.
31. Observe and enforce all applicable provisions of the Constitution and the Statutes of the State of Louisiana and all rules, regulations and directives of the State Board of Education and of the State Superintendent of Education.

Adopted prior to 1975

Revised: 12/17/97

LEGAL REFS.: cited above