

## **General Powers and Duties of the Board**

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOLS**

The Board has general control and management of the public schools in its district. The Board may establish schools and provide for courses and other services it deems necessary for the promotion of education and the general health and welfare of pupils, consistent with the administrative regulations of the Kentucky Board of Education.<sup>1</sup>

### **CHARTER SCHOOLS**

[KRS 160.1590](#) provides for charter school authorization, application, evaluation of applications and contracts with a charter school Board of Directors. Pursuant to this statute and Kentucky Board of Education regulations, the Board may serve as an authorizer for charter schools in the District.

### **REQUEST FOR WAIVER AND EXEMPTIONS**

The Board may authorize the Superintendent to request, on behalf of the District, a waiver of state regulations and/or reporting requirements established by a Kentucky Revised Statute requiring paperwork to be submitted to the Kentucky Board of Education or the Department of Education as permitted by statute.

When approved as a District of Innovation by the Kentucky Board of Education, the District is to be granted waivers and exemptions from selected Kentucky Administrative Regulations, Kentucky Revised Statutes, and, for a school of innovation, may be granted waivers of certain Board policies. A school may decide whether it voluntarily chooses to be designated as a school of innovation and, thus, be included in the District's application and plan. However, the Board may require a school identified for comprehensive support and improvement under [KRS 160.346](#) to participate in the District's plan of innovation.<sup>11</sup>

### **SCHOOL FUNDS AND PROPERTY**

The Board has control and management of all school funds and public school property and may use its funds and property to promote public education.<sup>1</sup>

### **ADMINISTRATION**

The Board shall exercise generally all powers prescribed by law in the administration of the public school system, appoint the Superintendent of schools, create and abolish positions, establish job classifications, and fix the compensation of employees.<sup>1</sup>

### **MANAGEMENT**

The Board may set goals for the District and shall make and adopt, and may amend or repeal policies for its meetings and proceedings for the management of the schools and school property of the district, for the transaction of its business and for the qualifications and duties of employees and the conduct of pupils.

### **SUBPOENA**

The Board may, in any investigation or proceeding before it, concerning a matter that may be a proper subject of inquiry by it, summon witnesses by subpoena, enforce their attendance, and require that they testify under properly administered oath.<sup>2</sup>

**General Powers and Duties of the Board****INSURANCE**

The Board may set aside funds to provide for liability and indemnity insurance against the negligence of the drivers or operators of school buses, other motor vehicles, and mobile equipment owned or operated by the Board.<sup>3</sup> The Board may expend funds necessary for liability insurance premiums and for the defense of any civil action brought against an individual Board member in an official or individual capacity, or both, on account of an act made in the scope and course of the performance of legal duties as a Board member.<sup>4</sup> The Board shall make available liability insurance coverage for the protection of all members of school councils from liability arising in the course of pursuing their duties as members of the councils.<sup>9</sup>

As long as they pay the full cost of premiums required, Board members may choose to participate in any group life insurance<sup>12</sup> or any group medical or dental insurance provided by the District for employees.<sup>10</sup>

**FREE SUPPLIES**

The Board may furnish necessary school supplies free of charge to indigent children in its school district, or to such other children as it deems advisable, under such rules and regulations as it may adopt.

The Superintendent shall recommend and the Board shall approve a process to waive fees for students who qualify for free and reduced priced lunches. All students who qualify shall be informed in writing of the fee waiver provisions. Mandatory waiver of fees for qualifying students shall be accomplished in compliance with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements.<sup>5</sup>

**REPORTS**

The Board shall, on forms prepared by the Commissioner of Education and approved by the Kentucky Board of Education, prepare and submit to the Kentucky Board of Education reports on all phases of its school service. It may prepare and publish for the information of the public a report on the progress of its schools.<sup>6</sup>

**LEVY OF TAX RATES**

As part of the budgetary process, the Board shall levy tax rates in compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements.<sup>7</sup>

**POWER TO BORROW FUNDS**

The Board may borrow money on the credit of the Board and issue negotiable notes in anticipation of revenues from school taxes and state revenue for the fiscal year in which the money is borrowed, and may pledge the anticipated revenues for the payment of principal and interest on the loan.<sup>8</sup>

**CONTRACT WITH CONSULTANTS**

The Board may contract for consulting services to provide specialized advice or assistance to the school system concerning educational, management, or administrative matters.<sup>4</sup>

Any proposed contracts with consultants shall be submitted to the Board for approval and shall be accompanied by figures showing the estimated cost of the consulting project to the District. Where appropriate, the Board may require bids for consulting services to be sought.

**General Powers and Duties of the Board****CONTRACT WITH CONSULTANTS (CONTINUED)**

Consultants who serve the District shall exercise no authority over District employees, but will act only as advisor in accordance with their contract.

**NATIONAL MOTTO**

The Board shall require each elementary and secondary school to display the national motto, "In God We Trust," in a prominent location which means a school entryway, cafeteria, or common area where students are likely to see it. Per [KRS 158.195](#), the display may take the form of, but is not limited to, a plaque or student artwork.

**REFERENCES:**

- <sup>1</sup> [KRS 160.290](#)
- <sup>2</sup> [KRS 160.300](#)
- <sup>3</sup> [KRS 160.310](#)
- <sup>4</sup> [KRS 160.160](#)
- <sup>5</sup> [KRS 160.330](#)
- <sup>6</sup> [KRS 160.340](#)
- <sup>7</sup> [KRS 160.470](#)
- <sup>8</sup> [KRS 160.540](#)
- <sup>9</sup> [KRS 160.345](#)
- <sup>10</sup> [KRS 160.280](#)
- <sup>11</sup> [KRS 156.108](#); [KRS 160.107](#); [KRS 160.346](#); [701 KAR 005:140](#)
- <sup>12</sup> [KRS 18A.205](#); [KRS 18A.210](#)  
[KRS 116.200](#); [KRS 156.072](#); [KRS 156.160](#); [KRS 158.195](#)  
[KRS 160.1590](#); [KRS 160.1592](#); [KRS 160.1593](#); [KRS 160.1594](#); [KRS 160.1595](#)  
[KRS 160.1599](#); [KRS 161.158](#); [KRS 162.010](#); [KRS 416.560](#)  
[OAG 91-10](#); [OAG 91-122](#); [OAG 95-10](#)  
[702 KAR 003:220](#); [702 KAR 004:160](#)

**RELATED POLICIES:**

01.41; 01.5; 01.7  
03.124; 03.224; 04.92

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