School Administrative Unit # 77
Monroe School District
School Board Policy

BBAA

FIRST READING: 10/09/2002	ADOPTED: 12/11/2002	REAFFIRMED: 10/4/2021

Board Member Authority & Responsibilities

All powers of the Monroe Consolidated School Board lie in its action as a corporate body. Individual board members may not exercise authority over District affairs.

An individual board member, including the chairperson, has power only when the Board by vote has delegated authority to them.

No legal action can be taken except at a duly warned meeting of the Board and by a quorum acting as a unit.

The decisions of the Monroe Consolidated School Board shall be binding until rescinded by the Board at a duly called regular or special meeting.

Local school boards exemplify American principles of representative democracy. Ultimately accountable to their publics, local school boards act as community decision-making agencies for the public schools. Moreover, on behalf of local public schools, school boards represent their community to local, state, and national agencies.

In the strong conviction that the American system of public-school education will best meet the needs of the citizenry if all school boards throughout the United States recognize and meet their full legal, civic, social, economic, moral, and ethical responsibilities, the Board believes that:

1. Standards of Local Board Operations: The school board should function in a non-partisan, broadly representative, team-spirited manner. Every member of the school board should open-mindedly represent the entire school district, and, consequently, must let their consideration for the entire district take precedence over every form of partisanship and special interest – political, racial, religious, geographic, economic, social, civic or other.

2. Written Policy: Adoption and Execution: The school board should adopt clearly defined written policies based on a thorough understanding of the educational process. In formulating the policies, they should consult individuals and groups affected by the policies and properly delegate execution of those policies to employed professional administrators.

3. Open Board Meetings and Public Information: The school board should conduct school district business in open session, except as otherwise provided by law, and endeavor by every possible means to inform the public concerning the school.

4. Citizen Group Involvement: The school board should enlist citizen groups to assist and counsel them, making certain that three principles are followed: (a) citizen groups should be broadly representative; (b) recommendations should be based on research and facts, and (c) recommendations should be submitted to the school board who alone have the authority and responsibility to act upon them.

5. Training and Research: The school board should seek to improve their own capabilities and procedures and should encourage training, scholarly research, and experimental efforts which offer promise of improving school board capabilities and procedures.