

BOARD MEMBER AUTHORITY

Members of the Board of Education have legal authority for the conduct of the school district only when acting as a body in a properly convened session. Board members acting as individuals have no authority over personnel or school affairs. The Board functions as a unit and speaks officially through the collective action of its membership. No member of the Board acting as an individual may exercise the authority of the Board, nor speak for the Board, unless authorized by the Board to do so, by instructions given at a meeting of the Board.

Members of the Board are free to speak to individuals on certain issues outside of Board meetings but such public expression is not to be construed as Board policy. Information from executive sessions must remain confidential at all times. The Board will not be bound in any way by any individual's statement or action unless the Board, through an adopted policy or by a majority vote of Board membership, has delegated this authority to the individual member.

Ref: Education Law §§1604; 1701; 1708; 1709; 1710
Matter of Bruno, 4 EDR 14 (1964)

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