

The Georgia Constitution places the operation and management of the school system under the control of the Columbia County Board of Education. A member of the Board is a County Officer, but has no power outside of the Board. Furthermore, these powers may only be exercised by the Board as an entity, meeting in regular or called sessions, with all action duly recorded in its minutes.

A general listing of duties is set forth below:

1. Adopt policies to govern the school system.
2. Employ and assign teachers and all other personnel on the recommendation of the Superintendent.
3. Conduct teacher non-renewal and dismissal hearing under the Fair Dismissal Law.
4. Make decisions relative to the assignment of students, and the consolidation and reorganization of schools.
5. Decide cases involving long-term suspension of students, and select tribunals to perform this duty initially.
6. Adopt the local millage rate.
7. Make determinations as to the submission of bond issues.
8. Act as a tribunal for hearing and determining any matter of local administration of the school laws.
9. Adopt a budget for submission to the State Board of Education.
10. Conduct hearings for non-tenured employees who claim their dismissal or denial of employment was based on constitutionally impermissible grounds.
11. Conduct appeals on employee grievances filed in accordance with Policy GAE, Complaints and Grievances.
12. Enter into all contracts and authorize purchases for the school system.
13. Exercise ownership and control over school property; to sell or lease property; and dispose of surplus property.

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14. Annually elect a vice-chairperson, and determine the date, place and time of monthly Board meetings.
15. Conduct the annual evaluation of the Superintendent.
16. Newly elected Board members must attend an orientation session and all Board members must participate in at least one day of training annually to ensure effective management and operation of the system.

The Board of Education will meet annually in a retreat environment to assess fulfillment of these duties and the ability of Board members to work effectively as a team.

PROCEDURE: NO

ADOPTED: 1/1/76

REVISED: 6/11/91, 10/1/97, 8/10/99, 2/13/07

Columbia County Board of Education