

### **AUTHORITY AND FUNCTIONS OF BOARD MEMBERS**

Inasmuch as the Board of Education is a legal entity, Board members have authority only when acting as a Board legally in session. An individual Board member has no legal authority or power to act for or to commit the Board, except when performing duties expressly and specifically authorized by the Board. The Board shall not be bound in any way by any statement or action on the part of any individual Board member except when such statement or action is in pursuance of specific instruction or authorization by the Board. Board members should not disclose confidential information.

Personal statements or commitments made other than in Board meetings frequently produce misunderstanding and embarrassment for individual members, the Board, and school officials. Since such actions tend to reduce the effectiveness of the schools, they should be avoided.

The Board of Education shall concern itself primarily with broad questions of policy rather than with administrative details. The application of policies is an administrative task to be performed by the Superintendent and his/her staff, who shall be held responsible for the effective administration and supervision of the entire school system. Board members should refer individuals having questions and/or complaints directly to the appropriate administrator.