

SCHOOL ATTORNEY

The School Committee and Superintendent may use the services provided by the town counsel. The Committee and the Superintendent may seek his/her services to counsel and represent the school system at various times.

However, because the complexity of the school system operations often require specialized legal services, the School Committee may retain counsel to provide additional legal assistance and services as needed.

It will be the duty of the counsel for the Committee to advise the School Committee and the Superintendent on the specific legal problems submitted to him/her. S/he will attend meetings upon request and will be sufficiently familiar with Committee policies, practices, and actions under these policies, and with requirements of the school law to enable him/her to offer the necessary legal advice.

A decision to seek legal advice or assistance on behalf of the school system will be made by the Superintendent or Committee.

Routine legal assistance does not require specific Committee approval or prior notice. However, when the Superintendent concludes that unusual types or amounts of professional legal service may be required, s/he will advise the Committee and seek either initial or continuing authorization for such service.

Requests for Legal Opinions

Access to legal counsel by individual members must be authorized by the Committee Chairperson or by a vote of the Committee.

Revised: October 7, 2014

SOURCE: MASC

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L., 71: 37E, Legal Counsel for Collective Bargaining
M.G.L., 71: 37F, Legal Counsel for General Purpose