

SCHOOL BOARD POWERS AND DUTIES

The School Board:

- adopts policy to provide for the day-to-day supervision of schools;
- sees that the school laws are properly explained, enforced and observed;
- secures, by visitation or otherwise, as full information as possible about the conduct of the public schools in the school division and takes care that they are conducted according to law and with the utmost efficiency;
- cares for, manages and controls the property of the school division and provides for the erecting, furnishing, equipping, and noninstructional operating of necessary school buildings and appurtenances and the maintenance thereof by purchase, lease, or other contracts;
- provides for the consolidation of schools or redistricting of school boundaries or adopts pupil assignment plans whenever such procedure will contribute to the efficiency of the school division;
- insofar as not inconsistent with state statutes and regulations of the Board of Education, operates and maintains the public schools in the school division and determines the length of the school term, the studies to be pursued, the methods of teaching and the government to be employed in the schools;
- performs such other duties as are prescribed by the Board of Education or are imposed by law;
- obtains public comment through a public hearing not less than seven days after reasonable notice to the public in a newspaper of general circulation in the school division prior to providing (i) for the consolidation of schools; (ii) the transfer from the public school system of the administration of all instructional services for any public school classroom or all noninstructional services in the school division pursuant to a contract with any private entity or organization; or (iii) in school divisions having 15,000 pupils or more in average daily membership, for redistricting of school boundaries or adopting any pupil assignment plan affecting the assignment of fifteen percent or more of the pupils in average daily membership in the affected school. Such public hearing may be held at the same time and place as the meeting of the School Board at which the proposed action is taken if the public hearing is held before the action is taken;
- surveys, at least annually, the school division to identify critical shortages of teachers and administrative personnel by subject matter, specialized student support positions, and school bus drivers and reports such critical shortages to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and to the Virginia Retirement System or requests the superintendent to conduct such survey and submit such report to the School Board, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Virginia Retirement System;

- ensures that the public schools within the school division are registered with the Department of State Police to receive electronic notice of the registration or reregistration of any sex offender within the school division pursuant to Va. Code § 9.1-914;
- ensures that the information sheet on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits program developed and provided by the Department of Social Services pursuant to subsection D of Va. Code § 63.2-801 is sent home with each student enrolled in an elementary or secondary school in the division at the beginning of each school year or, in the case of any student who enrolls after the beginning of the school year, as soon as practicable after enrollment;
- ensures that a fillable free or reduced price meals application is sent home with each student enrolled in a public elementary or secondary school in the division at the beginning of each school year or, in the case of any student who enrolls after the beginning of the school year, as soon as practicable after enrollment; and
- ensures that at any back to school night event in the division to which the parents of enrolled students are invited, any parent in attendance receives prominent notification of and access, in paper or electronic form, or both, to information about application and eligibility for free or reduced price meals for students and a fillable free or reduced price meals application that may be completed and submitted on site.

Specialized student support positions include school social workers, school psychologists, school nurses, licensed behavior analysts, licensed assistant behavior analysts, and other licensed health and behavioral positions, which may either be employed by the School Board or provided through contracted services.

Adopted: November 1998

Revised: June 25, 2004; September 5, 2006; June 26, 2007; May 6, 2014;
June 25, 2020; May 4, 2021; June 29, 2023

Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-70.3, 22.1-78, 22.1-79, 22.1-253.13:2.

Cross Refs.: AF Comprehensive Plan
 CBA Qualifications and Duties for the Superintendent
 KN Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry
 Information