

SCHOOL COMMITTEE LEGAL STATUS/ELECTIONS

The School Committee consists of five members elected by ballot from among the registered voters of the town. Elections are a part of the annual town elections. At each annual election, the voters choose one or two members to serve terms of three years each.

State Law provides that:

Every town at its annual meeting shall in every year when the term of office of any incumbent expires, and except when other provision is made by law, choose by ballot from its registered voters the following town officers for the following terms of office:

...five members of the school committee for terms of three years...

The School Committee is the governing board of the town's public schools. Although it functions as a duly elected committee of town government, the School Committee has, unlike other town boards, autonomous and absolute authority within limitations established by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to carry out the educational policies of the state and to guide the educational process.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 41:1 and 71:37 specifically, but powers and duties of School Committees are established throughout the General Laws of Massachusetts Relating to School Committees

CROSS REFS.: AA, School District Legal Status
BBA, School Committee Powers and Duties