

SCHOOL ATTORNEY

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

However, because of the complexity of school department operations often requires specialized legal services, the Committee may also retain an attorney or law firm to provide additional legal services.

It will be the duty of the counsel for the Committee to advise the School Committee and the Superintendent of the specific legal problems submitted to him/her. Counsel 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 may be made by the Committee. The Chairman or the Superintendent may also take such action if they deem it advisable.

Many types of legal assistance are routine and do not require specific Committee approval or prior notice by the Superintendent. However, when the Superintendent concludes that unusual types or amounts of professional legal service may be required, he/she will advise the Committee and seek either initial or continuing authorization for such services.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 71:37E; 71:37F