



Draft of New Policy

BDG

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SCHOOL ATTORNEY/LEGAL SERVICES

The Regional School Unit No. 24 (RSU) Board (RSUB) recognizes that the increasing complexity of school unit operations frequently requires procurement of professional legal services. Therefore, the RSUB shall designate an attorney and/or law firm to provide such services on an ongoing basis. The school attorney(s) shall be admitted to practice law in Maine. The RSUB reserves the right to obtain legal services outside of its designated attorney/law firm as deemed appropriate.

A decision to seek legal advice or assistance on behalf of the RSU shall normally be made by the Superintendent or RSUB Chair in accordance with RSUB policy and when an obvious need exists. Such services may also be obtained as a consequence of a formal vote of the RSUB.

Legal services required by the RSU may include, but not be limited to:

- A. Providing general legal advice to the RSUB and/or administration;
- B. Assisting with labor negotiations;
- C. Assisting with personnel matters;
- D. Assisting with expulsions and other student disciplinary matters;
- E. Conduct and/or assist with pending or actual litigation involving the school unit;
- F. Other specialized legal services; and
- G. Attendance at RSUB meetings or other activities as appropriate.

Many types of legal services are considered routine and do not require specific RSUB approval. However, when the Superintendent concludes that the potential for significant legal expenditure exists or under other unusual circumstances, he/she shall inform the RSUB at an appropriate point in the process. The RSUB may take action on such matters as appropriate.

First Read: March 6, 2018

Approved: