

SCHOOL ATTORNEY

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

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

It will be the duty of the counsel for the Committees to advise the School Committees and the Superintendent on the specific legal problems submitted to him/her. He/she 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 systems will be made by the Committees. The Superintendent may also take such action at the direction of the Committees.

Many types of legal assistance are routine and do 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, he/she will advise the appropriate Committee and seek either initial or continuing authorization for such service.

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