

## **SCHOOL BOARD LEGAL STATUS AND AUTHORITY**

**P2100**

The Board of Education is the legislative educational authority for the school district. Its legal status is that of a body corporate established pursuant to the laws of New York State. In exercising their authority and performing their duties, Board members act not as private individuals but as agents of the state. The Board as a corporate body may act only through the collective action of its members taken at a properly convened meeting. Absent specific authorization pursuant to a lawful vote, no individual Board member may exercise the authority of the Board nor may a member commit the Board to any course of action.

As a public body charged with the management of local schools, school boards are granted many powers and duties. The power of the Board of Education is generally limited to those powers expressly granted or implied by statute.

Reviewed March 2008

Renumbered from P9100 – September 2015