

<b>OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD</b>	<b>Policy Code: BDF</b>
School Board First Read: May 20, 2015 School Board June 17, 2015 - Request for Public Hearing School Board (Public Hearing): August 19, 2015 School Board Second Read/Adoption: October 7, 2015 Policy Committee Reviewed: 4/13/16, 4/19/17, 4/11/18 5/6/20, 5/5/21- No Changes School Board Annual Review: April 6, 2022	Page 1 of 2 Category: Optional

### ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO THE BOARD

The Oyster River Cooperative School Board may rely on advisory committees to counsel it as a means of discerning the needs and desires of the School District and its residents. The central purpose of all advisory committees is to contribute to the educational program by conducting studies, identifying problems, and developing recommendations that enhance the effectiveness of the decision-making process. It is not the intent of any sub-committee/advisory committee to ever have the authority to work outside or instead of the authority of the full Board.

Any advisory committee shall have only those duties and powers as the Board determines. Said duties will be reviewed annually by the full Board. The ultimate authority to make decisions will continue to reside with the Board. No advisory committee's recommendations shall have any limiting effect on appropriations, unless all the procedures of RSA 32 have been followed.

Upon completing its assignment, each committee shall either be given new problems or be dissolved. Advisory committees shall not be allowed to continue for prolonged periods without a definite assignment. Each committee shall be instructed as to the length of time each member is being asked to serve, the service the Board wishes it to render, the resources the Board intends to provide, the approximate dates on which the Board wishes it to submit reports, and the approximate date on which the Board wishes to dissolve the committee. The committee shall be instructed as to the relationship it has to the Board, to individual Board members, to the Board member(s) assigned to provide liaison, to the public, to the Superintendent, the committee assistant, and the remainder of the professional staff.

The Board shall have sole power to dissolve any of its advisory committees and shall reserve the right to exercise this power at any time during the life of any committee.

The Board may seek the advice of the Superintendent before establishing or dissolving any advisory committee.

The Board shall make all appointments of citizens to advisory committees unless delegated to the superintendent. The Superintendent shall make all appointments of staff members.

The School Board shall see that the public is made aware of the services rendered by such committees and shall see that the public is informed of the major conclusions and recommendations made by such committees. All public announcements concerning the organization, membership, operation, recommendations and dissolution of such committees shall be made at such time and in such manner as the Board may choose.

Any advisory committee that reports to the Board or informs a decision ultimately to be made by the Board is a public body fully subject to the Right-to-Know law and related policies equally as the Board itself. This does not include advisory committees that only report to or inform a decision made by the Superintendent or his or her designee. For example, an advisory committee to recommend candidates to be nominated by the Superintendent is not a public body even though the Board votes to elect the single nominated candidate.

As each new advisory committee that is a public body is being organized, its members will review the Right-to-Know law and related policies to ensure full awareness and compliance.

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This policy affects public access to the Board and the public's Right to Know. To protect that right, this policy requires a public hearing before it may be revised. Further, this policy may not be suspended except by a two-thirds vote at a public meeting. The Board must always fully comply with the letter and spirit of the Right-to-Know law that may not be suspended. This policy will be reviewed by the Board and all standing advisory committees annually.

**Cross Reference:**

BBAA – School Board Member Authority  
BDB – Board Officers/Board Organization Meeting  
EFA: Availability and Distribution of Healthy Foods

**Legal References:**

RSA 32:24, Other Committees  
RSA 91-A: Access to Public Records and Meetings