

The Board recognizes the need for quality legal counsel in light of the increasing complexity of the statutes, regulations and policies under which the District operates.

Board attorneys are retained by the Board as counsel for the Board to provide legal services on any matter related to the operation of the District. Attorneys may be asked to provide legal advice, render legal opinions, prepare resolutions, review proposed Board actions, represent the Board in a court of law, or provide other legal services the Board or Superintendent may request on behalf of the District.

The Board designates the Superintendent as the sole administrative access to the Board's attorney for legal advice regarding the day to day operations of the District. The Superintendent may delegate the responsibility for contact with the attorneys to a member of the staff when necessary.

The President of the Board shall have access to the Board's attorneys and may request legal advice about school business. The President of the Board shall receive prior authorization from the Board regarding the area(s) for which advice is sought before contact the attorneys. A request for authorization may be in writing, in person or by telephone.

Copies of all written requests for legal opinions shall be furnished by the Superintendent to all Board members. Requests for legal opinions requiring research or a substantial number of hours on the part of the attorneys shall be in writing when practicable.

All advice received from the attorneys is privileged under the attorney-client privilege and not subject to public inspection. All recipients of such advice and any written opinions/letters/memoranda containing such advice shall be held as strictly confidential by all parties.

LEGAL REF.: 22-5-4 NMSA