

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD	Policy Code: BDG
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ATTORNEY

The board may, at its discretion, appoint an attorney to perform desired legal services. The attorney shall serve the board's pleasure and be compensated at a mutually agreeable rate.

The board recognizes that the increasing complexity of school district operations frequently requires procurement of professional legal services. Consequently, it shall retain an attorney or law firm for that purpose.

A decision to seek legal advice or assistance on behalf of the school district shall normally be made by the superintendent or by persons specifically authorized by the superintendent or by the board chairperson. Such action shall occur where it is consistent with approved district policy or standard practice and meets an obvious need of the district. It may also take place as a consequence of formal board direction.

Many types of instances of legal assistance to the district may be considered routine and not necessitating specific board approval or prior vote. For example, the superintendent may consult with the school attorney to interpret statutory requirements or regulations, prepare or review contracts and seek legal opinions regarding other district issues.

However, when the administration concludes that unusual types or amounts of professional legal service may be required, board authorization for such service shall be promptly requested.