

## **SCHOOL ATTORNEY**

The School Committee may use the services provided by the town counsel. The School Committee and the Superintendent may seek his/her services to counsel and represent the Hadley Public Schools at various times.

However, because the complexity of school department operations often require specialized legal services, the School Committee may also retain an attorney or law firm to provide legal services. The attorney works for, and directly reports to, the School Committee.

It will be the duty of the counsel to advise the School Committee 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 School 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. Legal Counsel will keep the School Committee updated on the status of the legal issues that Counsel is addressing on behalf of the School Committee.

A decision to seek legal advice or assistance on behalf of the school system will be made by the Superintendent or the School Committee.

Many types of legal assistance are routine and do not require specific School 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 School Committee and seek either initial or continuing authorization for such service.

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

Adopted By The  
Hadley School Committee: March 24, 2014

Reviewed September 29, 2017